



# THE CULTURE OF REACHING PREGNANT WOMEN AND CHILDREN BY HEALTH MANS IN THE CONTEXT OF RELIGIOUS MODERATION IN LIPRAK WETAN VILLAGE

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## Abstract :

As part of traditional culture in Indonesian society, recitation has played an important role in supporting the welfare of women, especially pregnant women. The aim of this research is to investigate and document the cultural practices of recitation related to the health of pregnant women and their impact on the physical, mental and spiritual health of mothers and their unborn babies. Qualitative research methods were used, by conducting in-depth interviews with pregnant women, midwives, religious leaders and community leaders involved in the recitation. The methods we use are observation, documentation and interviews. Findings show that recitation not only provides a platform to share knowledge about pregnancy and childbirth, but also serves as a space for pregnant women to receive emotional, social, and spiritual support from their community. The recitation culture provides an opportunity for pregnant women to feel valued, heard, and connected to the traditional values that give meaning to their role as mothers. The implication of this research is the need for further recognition of the role of culture in promoting the health of pregnant women, as well as better integration between cultural practices and modern health services to improve holistic care for pregnant women, especially in Liprak Wetan village. By embracing moderate-based teachings, society can develop a holistic understanding of religion and culture, avoiding narrow and extreme views. A teaching culture that combines local and global elements creates space to spread moderate values in relevant contexts. Active involvement in the teaching culture in Liprak Wetan village can foster attitudes of mutual respect, respect and cooperation between individuals from various religious and cultural backgrounds.

**Keywords** : culture, spirituality, moderation, pregnant women

## INTRODUCTION

In a society that is still heavily influenced by traditions and spiritual beliefs, the practice of shamanic recitations for pregnant women remains one of the most popular choices for maternal health care. However, in following this practice, it is important to understand and practice religious moderation. First of all, shamans who practice recitation for pregnant women often have a deep spiritual background and extensive knowledge of local traditions and the religion in question. In doing so, they are able to integrate religious teachings into their treatment practices, thereby offering support that is consistent with their clients' religious beliefs. Religious moderation also pays attention to the safety and health aspects of pregnant women and fetuses. In the practice of recitation, careful attention to sterilization procedures and the safe use of natural ingredients are important parts of the principles adhered to by shamans. By combining traditional practices with modern medical understanding, shamanic recitations can take place in a safe and healthy framework for pregnant women.

Additionally, in the context of religious moderation, shamans are also responsible for respecting their clients' religious beliefs and values. They may adapt

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the spells, prayers, or rituals they perform according to the religious teachings of the pregnant women they serve. Thus, the recitation experience can be an experience that strengthens spirituality and ties to the religious beliefs held by pregnant women. However, it is also important to note that in the context of religious moderation, shamans must avoid practices that are contrary to religious teachings or that could endanger the health of the pregnant woman or fetus. Shamans who practice Islamic studies for pregnant women must have a clear understanding of the ethical and spiritual boundaries that govern their practice. The practice of shamanic recitations for pregnant women can be carried out in religious moderation by combining local wisdom, spiritual traditions and modern medical knowledge. In this way, pregnant women can feel supported holistically, both physically and spiritually, in their pregnancy journey.

A shaman who conducts recitations with a moderate approach to religion shows a deep understanding of religious values and the importance of maintaining harmony between spiritual beliefs and daily life. In his teachings, the shaman may emphasize universal messages about compassion, peace and justice, which can be accepted by various groups of society regardless of their religious background or beliefs. With a moderation approach, the shaman in Liprak Wetan village also emphasizes the importance of tolerance between religious communities and avoiding extremism and fanaticism which can damage social harmony. Through this study, participants are expected to gain a broader understanding of the basic principles of their religion and how to apply them positively in everyday life. Apart from that, the shaman in Liprak Wetan village who carries out lectures on religious moderation explained the importance of rituals to obtain salvation in helping people understand and respect religious differences and promote constructive inter-religious dialogue. Thus, these recitations are not only a place to deepen religious knowledge, but also as a means to strengthen harmony between religious communities in society.

This culture of recitation for pregnant women carried out by shamans has deep significance in the culture of many societies because it provides social, spiritual support and practical knowledge that is very necessary during pregnancy. This recitation not only provides an opportunity for pregnant women to get information about maternal and baby health, but also provides space to share experiences, concerns and hopes with fellow pregnant women as well as religious or cultural figures who lead the recitation. In addition, the culture of recitation for mothers Pregnancy is also a form of celebration and respect for the mother's role in creating a new life. This creates a positive atmosphere and builds confidence for pregnant women, which in turn can contribute to their physical and mental well-being and the development of the unborn baby. By strengthening ties between pregnant women, the community, and religious or cultural values, the culture of recitation for pregnant women can strengthen social support which is very important during pregnancy and childbirth.

In this study, researchers looked for valid data by interviewing shamans who practice this culture so that it can be continued into writing that can be enjoyed by many people. Spiritually, the culture of recitation for pregnant women is very important to provide a safe soul for pregnant women themselves. This shaman gave a concrete reason, namely as a kind of kindness in living life during pregnancy,

because this pregnancy really needs a health application. The aim of the research is to find out more deeply about the power of religious moderation in the cultural context of recitation carried out by shamans in Liprak Wetan village itself.

## **RESEARCH METHODS**

This research method uses a qualitative method regarding the culture of recitation carried out by shamans for pregnant women in the context of religious moderation in Liprak Wetan village which can involve various analysis techniques that we carry out including in-depth interviews, participatory observation and content analysis. First, in-depth interviews were conducted with religious figures, community activists, and individuals involved in these cultural preservation programs. Prevention of radicalization to understand their views on the importance of religious moderation in terms of the safety expected by the shaman for pregnant women. This participatory observation provides direct insight into the practices of religious moderation carried out in society and religious institutions. Additionally, content analysis of religious literature, speeches, and documents can be used to track extreme narratives and moderating responses that exist within a particular religious context. By combining data from these various sources, qualitative research can provide an in-depth understanding of how religious moderation can be effective in preserving local culture in Liprak Wetan village.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

Local culture is an invaluable heritage that reflects the identity and history of a society. By preserving local culture, we ensure that the values, traditions and knowledge that have existed for centuries remain alive and well. One of the important reasons for preserving local culture is to maintain the rich cultural diversity in the world. By preserving local culture, we also pay tribute to our ancestors who have developed local traditions and wisdom over the centuries. It also provides an opportunity for the younger generation to learn and understand their cultural roots, which can help them build a strong identity and have a sense of pride in their origins.

Local culture also plays an important role in strengthening the local economy. Cultural tourism, traditional handicrafts and local festivals are examples of how culture can be a source of income for local communities. By preserving local culture, we also support sustainable economic growth in the area. Additionally, local culture often includes sustainable practices that are valuable for human life and the environment. For example, traditional farming systems or the use of natural materials in handicrafts can provide examples of how we can coexist with nature in a more balanced way.

Preserving local culture can play a role in building bridges between generations. By involving communities in traditional cultural activities, we create opportunities for elders to transmit their knowledge and skills to younger generations, so that cultural heritage can continue and develop from one generation to the next. Including in the village of Liprak Wetan, which still has strong culture, including the culture of reciting the Koran for pregnant women which is always held once a year. This culture really needs appreciation to always be preserved. Apart from being beneficial internally, it is also beneficial in terms of harmony between

local residents. This proves that cultural preservation will have a positive impact on the residents of Liprak Wetan village.

The culture of shamanic recitations for pregnant women and children in the context of religious moderation refers to religious practices that are adapted to moderate principles and in accordance with the teachings of the religion adhered to. In many societies in various countries, especially in Asia and Africa, shaman practices still have an important place in health care, especially in matters of pregnancy and child care. In the context of religious moderation, several important principles need to be considered in the culture of shamanic recitations for pregnant women and children. The culture of shaman recitation for pregnant women and children can be understood and practiced by paying attention to the cultural practices of shaman recitation which must be harmonized with the religious teachings adhered to by the Liprak Wetan village community. This includes ensuring that such practices do not conflict with moderate religious values and religious traditions. The safety and health of pregnant women and children must be a top priority. Therefore, the practices of traditional healers should be evaluated to ensure that they do not harm the health of pregnant women and children.

The culture of shamanic recitations can be seen as part of a holistic approach to the health of pregnant women and children. However, in the context of the values of religious moderation, it is important to promote accurate education and knowledge about reproductive health and child care in accordance with the teachings of one's religion. While quack practices have their place, it is important to encourage regular medical consultations during pregnancy and child care. This not only ensures early identification of health problems, but is also consistent with the values of religious moderation that value scientific knowledge and the use of proven effective treatments. In the Liprak Wetan community which adheres to the values of religious moderation, it is important to respect the diversity of religious practices and beliefs. This means that shamanic practices that conform to the teachings of different religions should be respected and supported, as long as they do not conflict with fundamental health and safety values. Paying attention to these values of religious moderation, the culture of shamanic recitations for pregnant women and children can be carried out in a way that respects religious values, while still prioritizing the welfare and safety of pregnant women and children.

In some cultures, shamans may use incantations or spells in the treatment or protection of pregnant women and children. This practice can conflict with religious teachings which emphasize respect for God as the only source of strength and protection. Shamans often involve special spiritual practices or rituals in the treatment and care of pregnant women and children. However, these kinds of practices may conflict with religious teachings that have specific views on spiritual practices or rituals. We really need to respect whatever a shaman does, but again, no one can replace God as long as we are still on this earth.

It is important to understand that people's perceptions and attitudes towards the culture of shamanic recitations can be very diverse and complex, and influenced by many factors. Therefore, a holistic and dialogue-based approach is needed to understand and respond to people's needs and expectations for health care in the context of religious moderation. The difference between the cultural practices of

shamanic recitations which are based on religious values and modern health practices. These differences can include aspects such as treatment methods, beliefs about the causes of disease, approaches to prevention and treatment, and overall understanding of health and healing.

The cultural practices of shamanic recitations are often rooted in religious traditions and beliefs unique to a particular society. They may involve the use of prayers, spells, herbal concoctions, or special rituals that are seen to have spiritual power to heal or protect against disease. On the other hand, modern health practices are based on scientific evidence and growing medical knowledge, which includes diagnosis and treatment based on scientific studies and medical technology.

According to the information we got from the midwife in Liprak Wetan village, rituals for midwives are an important part of tradition and culture in many communities. This ritual not only has symbolic meaning, but also has social, psychological and even health impacts for the baby and his family. First of all, this ritual is often believed to be a way to protect babies from negative energy and evil spirits that can harm their well-being. This provides a sense of security and peace of mind for parents who believe that their baby is protected by spiritual forces.

Apart from that, the dukun ritual is also an important moment in strengthening ties between family and community. This process often involves participation from extended family members and neighbors, creating stronger relationships between them. TBAs also act as intermediaries between the physical and spiritual worlds, connecting babies with the traditions and culture of their ancestors. From a psychological perspective, this ritual can give babies a sense of self-confidence and identity as they grow up. They grow up in an environment that celebrates their existence and assures them that they are recognized by the society in which they live. This helps in the formation of their self-esteem and mental well-being.

Health-wise, some traditional birth attendant rituals also involve preventive practices and traditional medical treatments that have been proven effective in some cases. For example, massaging babies with certain oils or giving herbal concoctions can help improve blood circulation, strengthen the immune system, and reduce the risk of certain diseases. The importance of traditional birth attendant rituals can also be seen from a cultural and identity perspective. This ritual is an inseparable part of a society's cultural heritage and helps maintain the continuity and preservation of these traditions. By celebrating this ritual, future generations can continue to connect with their cultural roots and inherit the values that their ancestors upheld.

We see that from a cultural perspective, the preservation of this recitation can be sustainable if there are successors to the shaman. The shamans in Liprak Wetan are the result of being passed down from generation to generation and their descendants are still preserved. This gift of offspring is not visible to the human eye but can be felt by descendants who will gain knowledge from people who pass on the ability to preserve culture in Liprak Wetan village.

## CONCLUSION

Traditional practitioners who have special knowledge and skills in providing care to pregnant women, babies and children. They fill gaps in the conventional health care system, especially in areas less accessible to formal health services. TBAs for pregnant women and children have extensive traditional knowledge of health and care practices that have been passed down through generations in their communities. They provide prenatal care, assistance during childbirth, postnatal care, and children's health care using their traditional knowledge.

In addition to providing physical care, shamans also often act as emotional and spiritual supports for pregnant women and children. They use spiritual beliefs and traditional rituals to provide support and promote holistic well-being. Although traditional birth attendants have an important role, it is important to remember that their practices may not always be based on scientific evidence. Therefore, the integration of traditional practices with formal health services can help ensure that pregnant women and children receive holistic and effective care, while keeping their safety and well-being in mind. The shamans in Liprak Wetan are the result of being passed down from generation to generation and their descendants are still preserved. This gift from descendants is not visible to the human eye but can be felt by descendants who will gain knowledge from people who pass on the ability to preserve culture in Liprak Wetan village. The existence of ties and descendants is able to preserve this shaman culture.

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