

## Research Article

# Functional Typology Structure of Ethnicity and Culture Toward Regional Language Learning in Aceh Singkil District

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Aceh Singkil is an economically successful area with many enticing tourist attractions, such as natural, ethnic, and maritime. This region, which is bordered by the sea and split by a major river known as the Lae Souraya, is home to several historical and cultural attractions. The existence of natural resources and cultural attractions persuades the local government to formulate the culture as an interesting package for the visitor. This article examines the role and resources of Aceh Singkil's natural and cultural heritage that are currently, but not properly, used. According to this typology, Aceh Singkil has phenomenal tourism and cultural attraction spots, which include natural tourist attractions, art and cultural performances, artificial natural (engineering) and important cultural places, royal historical heritage sites, important spiritual sites, spiritual values, local genius, and traditional culinary delights. Following a field investigation, researchers found issues such as how to operate and exploit these cultural sites for sustainable tourist growth. What typology may be used to depict tourism and cultural attractions in Aceh Singkil? This study seeks to identify and deconstruct examples of operating and exploiting these resources for the development of sustainable cultural tourism, as well as to build a typology capable of representing Aceh Singkil's tourist attractions. Theoretical and practical issues that indicate the uniqueness of regional ethno-cultural tourism are examined. Based on this data, experts believe that an ethno-historically based ethnocultural tourism model is required. Moreover, these findings and field investigations are critical to create an ethnocultural tourism model that pays special attention to the cultural traits of the Aceh Singkil people and national nature for both locals and visitors from other countries. The objective of establishing this model is to assist in the development and introduction of sustainable cultural attraction for visitors, the creation of new employment for people, the rise in sales of tourism and cultural products, and, of course, the improvement of tourism and art cultural infrastructure in the region.

**Keywords:** ethnocultural, ethno-historically, tourism, cultural heritage, characteristics of Aceh Singkil

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## 1. Introduction

Because client happiness, safety, and enjoyment are the key priorities of the tourism company, tourism is a competitive and dynamic industry that requires the ability to consistently adapt to changing customer wants and preferences. Tourism has proven to be a huge international business with tremendous growth potential. This phenomena is becoming more global and complicated, having economic, sociological, behavioral, cultural, political, environmental, and educational components [1]. The tourist industry has contributed 3.3 trillion USD to Indonesia's GDP. According to the most recent UNWTO report, cultural tourism is extremely important, with growth above 5% in 2005, 2015, and 2017 [2]. Along with this, there is a rising realization that destinations must produce and provide travelers with memorable tourism experiences [3]. As a result, destination image is widely acknowledged as a significant construct influencing tourists' destination selections, decision making, post-trip evaluations, and future behavior [4-6]. Good destination quality, image, and happiness lead to favorable WOM (Word of Mouth), customer visits, and return visits, which can impact the host's financial performance in the tourist industry. Maintaining tourist customer happiness is one approach to ensure the sustainability of tourism. Previous research on the characteristics that influence the likelihood of returning to a tourist site has found that perceived quality and customer satisfaction are important [7-11]. Aceh Province has a variety of numerous ethnic groups, each with their own distinct arts and culture, therefore it has the potential to develop as an ethnocultural-based tourist destination [12].

Aceh is divided into 11 tribes: the Aceh tribe, the Tamiang tribe, the Alas tribe, the Gayo tribe, the Singkil tribe, the Haloban tribe, the Aneuk Jamee tribe, the Kluet tribe, the Simelu tribe, the Dapayan tribe, and the Sigulai tribe. Aceh Province has a distinct culture, beginning with regional languages, traditional Acehnese attire, traditional Acehnese dances, Acehnese buildings, Acehnese wedding traditions, traditional Acehnese weapons, traditional Acehnese regional music, and traditional Acehnese food [13]. Among these tribes is the Singkil tribe, which has a territorial region and a village known as the Singkil community. The historical cultural places, artifacts, and culture left behind by their forefathers are tourist attractions that will enhance the existing natural and other tourism packages.

Aceh Singkil Regional Bruto universally still relies on the plantation sector at around 65%, but this does not rule out the possibility of exploring the tourism sector as a supporter and able to collaborate and revive the economic sector. Therefore, the tourism sector needs to be developed, especially since this area has sufficient tourism

assets, this is proven by the awarding of 2 types, namely marine tourism and the best cultural village in 2022. For this reason, there is a need for restructuring through each appropriate mechanism, with spatial planning and basic needs by local communities based on local wisdom.

The problem found in the field is how to operate and exploit these cultural sites for sustainable tourist growth. What typology can be used to describe tourist attractions in Aceh Singkil?

## 2. Material and Methods

This study is based on fieldwork and takes an ethno-historical approach. "Ethno-historical is research that has a direct relationship to the environment, here the reliability and dependability of a person or object is required" [14]. This study is based on cultural research, and the data was gathered through participant observation, interviews, and secondary data analysis. The anthropological-historical method used in this study is intended to investigate field problems.

The study of ethnographic methods (anthropology) is related to the elder generation's speech or stories that we encounter in the field as a horizon opener. Ethnography is a branch of Anthropology that studies culture within a particular civilisation or ethnic group. This method is used to learn how people view food as a part of their cultural history and identity. According to sociological and anthropological study, food is a social manifestation that separates people from one another [15] and it is one of the cultural elements. Cultural components of a community or tribal group, such as livelihoods, knowledge and technical systems, social structures, arts and religion, and language [16].

## 3. Results

### 3.1. Aceh Singkil industrial tourism

Aceh Singkil Regency is a region in Aceh Province with enthralling natural beauty. A marine tour with 99 islands in the Pulau Banyak District is constantly available to guests. Parts of the Hill range make up the landscape. When compared to other locations in the archipelago, the range with multiple magnificent rivers is an area of deep adventure nature tourism for adolescents and teens who love nature, hiking, and so on, as well as with its highly distinctive and intriguing traditional arts [17]. Several sorts of tourist

industries were discovered in the Singkil Regency based on field observation data. The Singkil district, with an area of approximately 1,857.88 km, stretches from the north in the form of hilly areas towards the south leading to the coastal area, with regional boundaries to the north bordering Subussalam City, to the south bordering the Indonesian Ocean, to the east with North Sumatra Province, and to the west bordering South Aceh Regency. The Singkil area has the natural ability to support tourism growth.

This region has 120 villages, but the emphasis of the research is in North Singkil District, which has the capital Ketapang Indah and has 7 kampongs (villages) and 1 settlement. (1) Kampong Gosong Telaga Utara, (2) Kampong Gosong Telaga Selatan, (3) East Telaga Gosong Village, (4) Telaga Bakti Village, (5) Kampong Baru, (6) Kampong Indah, and (7) Kampong Gosong Telaga Barat are the villages. All of these settlements are close together and near the seaside (Figure 1).

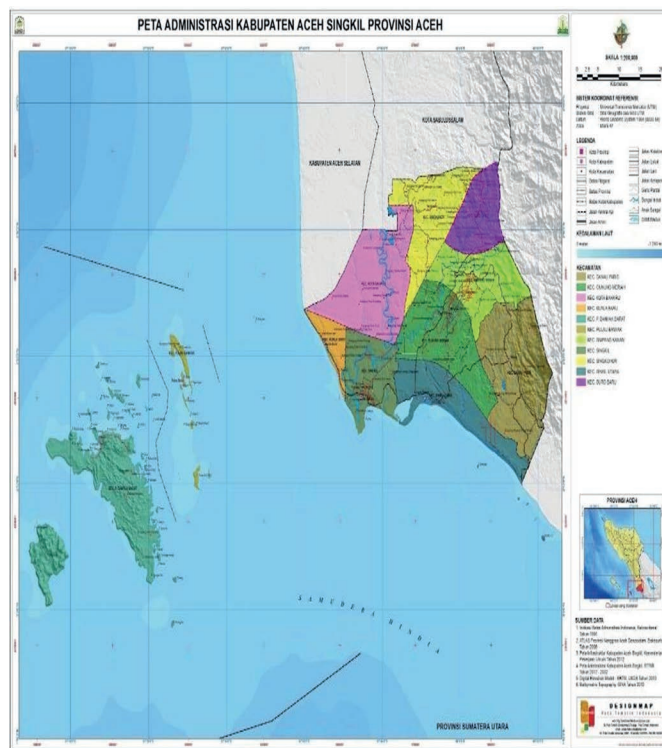
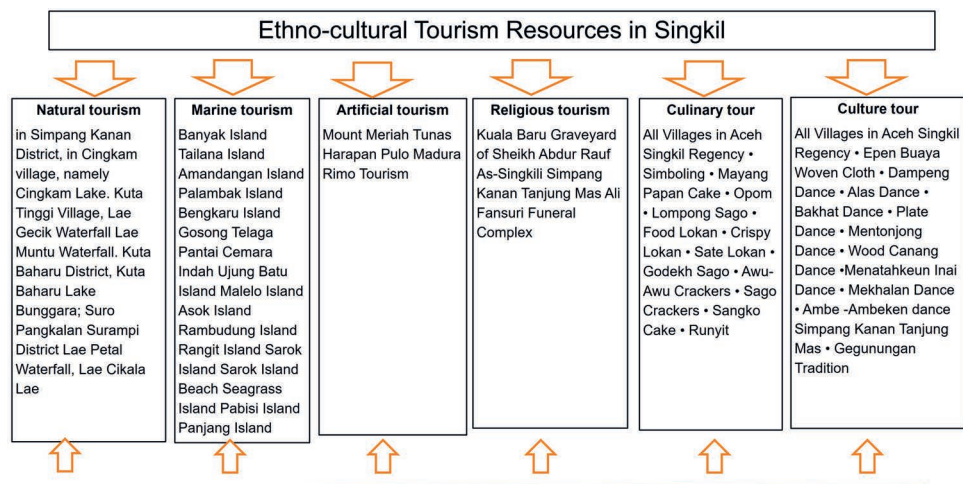


Figure 1: Aceh Singkil regency map. Source: Author’s own work.

### 3.2. Type of Aceh Singkil industrial tourism

As for looking at the types of tourism industry in Singkil Regency, researchers will create a clustering. Ethno-cultural tourism resources are all natural objects and phenomena, as well as cultural artifacts. These resources, both tangible and intangible, form the overall heritage. Based on the classification of Flier [18], Zorin et al. [19], Fedorova et

al. [20] and the UNESCO Convention [8] natural and cultural cultural heritage, natural heritage. As we can see now, Singkil’s tourism resources are classified as follows: Ethno-cultural Tourism Resources in Singkil as natural tourism, marine tourism, artificial tourism, religious tourism, culinary tourism, cultural tourism (Figure 2).



**Figure 2:** Resources of ethno-cultural tourism of the Singkil. Source: Author’s own work.

Ethno-cultural tourism in Singkil is destination-based preservation and utilization of natural heritage, cultural heritage and regional traditions. Therefore, ethno-cultural tourism is based on the unique cultural resources of the area. Ethno-cultural tourism contributes actively to the preservation of heritage and the rational use of culture and nature. Each region has its own unique cultural and natural heritage. Interview with Wanhar Lingga S.Pd (Chairman of HPI Aceh Singkil), Mr. H. Ali Sadikin Pinto (Member (MAA Aceh Singkil Regency) and Mr. Sabirin Malau (Head of Tanjung Mas Village) Pulau Banyak has 2 sub-districts namely Pulau Banyak Barat and Pulau Banyak which is currently the main tourist destination in Aceh Singkil district. The ferry port is only found in Pulau Banyak sub-district with a population of 1300 people. In 2022 Aceh Singkil district received 2 awards from API in the category of Pulau Banyak tourism festival and the best national cultural village (Tanjung village bro). Ethnic and cultural tourism aims to use this vast cultural wealth for mutual benefit between local residents and tourists. Like Tanjung Mas Village, it has a unique tradition in the form of a mountain procession along the Lae Cinendang River. There are two groups of boats, one boat for the men and one boat for the bride. The tradition of the mountains was carried out during the time of the four kingdoms in Simpang Kanan. Each of the Kingdoms of Tanjung Mas, Ujung Limus, Suro and Silatong. At that time, this tradition was considered a means of royal transportation. Ethno-cultural tourism reveals the uniqueness of the region and creates a system of rational attitudes of the natural and cultural heritage of

the area. It also helps to understand the deep meaning and the content of a nation's culture person.

## 4. Discussion

### 4.1. Cultural inheritance

The traditional knowledge of the community can be used as an effort to advance the conservation of natural resources [21], such as tourism, including rituals as a form of religious tourism in the Singkil community. The local community in Tanjung Mas village has preserved its cultural values for generations. Most traditional ceremonies rely on speakers from the older generation (local traditional leaders). In the discussion, the respondents stated that the role and importance of every religion in traditional ceremonies must be preserved, for example plants, said the village head of Tanjung Jati Village. This research is in line with what was reported by Sada and Jumari [22] in East Nusa Tenggara province. The collection of plant species is carried out in accordance with applicable traditional procedures so that their sacred value is not lost. Local communities who carry out and preserve their traditional ceremonies, either directly or indirectly, can protect genetic resources, especially regarding the use of various plants in traditional ceremonies [23].

## 5. Conclusion

Identification of the potential of local arts and culture as a supporter of ethnocultural-based tourism is absolutely necessary as a basis for formulating strategies and policies for sustainable tourism management. This study is important to carry out as an effort to conserve culture so that tourism objectives and its use are achieved. This research is also intended to support government programs in strengthening arts and culture to support sustainable cultural tourism in Aceh Province. This research will involve students to support the MBKM program, especially Independent Study/Project activities.

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