

THE DEVELOPMENT OF ECOPRINT TECHNIQUE IN SPECIAL REGION OF YOGYAKARTA

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Abstract : Yogyakarta is one of the centers of Batik that has already well known in the world. Tourist can buy batik in several places in Yogyakarta, such as the Beringharjo Market on Malioboro Street or the center of batik in the Imogiri sub-district, Bantul Regency. According to Irwan Tirta, batik is a technique of decorating fabrics or textiles by using wax in a color dyeing process, where all this process is done by hand. Batik is made either by drawing dots and lines of the resist with a spouted tool called a tjanting or by printing the resist with a copper stamp called a cap. In general, people only know three types of batik, namely handmade batik, copper stamped batik and printed batik. However, along with the development of textile world there emerged new form of batik technique called the ecoprint batik. Batik ecoprint is an environmentally friendly textile activity because it uses provided materials among the community. Basically, this batik ecoprint is slightly different from handmade batik, because batik ecoprint produces motifs from nature, such as leaves with their arrangement of motifs which are free and do not contain symbolic meaning, so that they are included in modern motifs. The purpose of this research is to develop an entrepreneurial business in order to improve and develop local batik businesses in the area of Puri Mojo Asri, Sleman, Yogyakarta. Present development, batik ecoprint crafters are returning to increase their production capacity. In order to develop more ecoprint fabric products, both for fashion and home decoration such as pillowcases, bolsters, curtains and more. The research method used is a qualitative method.

Keywords - Batik Ecoprint, Textile, Motives, Processing Technique, Staining Technique

1. INTRODUCTION

Nature is very important for human life. Economic activities carried out by humans are never separated from natural resources. Nature provides a source of life for humans with extraordinary beauty. Thus, many people are inspired to carry out economic activities by representing the natural beauty in a work in the form of fashion design on clothing. Public awareness of the importance of preserving the environment is increasing, so that environmentally friendly lifestyles are becoming a trend in various businesses, especially in the textile business. Similarly, the fabric processing technique that is currently phenomenal, namely ecoprint batik. One of the clothes making techniques that offers unique and modern motifs is the ecoprint batik. As the name implies "ecoprint", the word eco which means nature or natural and print which can be interpreted as a printing process. Thus, ecoprint means the process of printing and processing fabrics with natural techniques. This batik is made by printing natural materials in the surrounding environment such as leaves, flowers, twigs, and even stems. All the processing processes are very natural, starting from the basic ingredients used, fabric coloring, and techniques for making motif patterns on the fabric also using natural methods. Thus, making ecoprint batik is called environmentally friendly because it does not cause pollution in water and soil.

Batik ecoprint utilizes the unique texture of various types of leaves arranged in such a way as to produce beautiful patterns on the fabric. Batik ecoprint is able to provide comfort and satisfaction for its users. This is because ecoprint batik produces high aesthetic value that can attract consumers to enjoy its beauty, such as products that produced by Puri Mojo Asri, Sleman, Yogyakarta which has an attraction for tourists in making ecoprint batik.

II. RESEARCH METHODS

A. Observation

This study aims to analyze the making of ecoprint using natural and environmentally friendly techniques. In analyzing the making of ecoprint batik, it takes a direct observation method to an ecoprint batik factory in the Puri Mojo Asri area, Sleman, Yogyakarta.

B. Data and Analysis

Data collection was carried out using secondary data which was carried out with in-depth study techniques for making ecoprint batik. The study was conducted by conducting ecoprint batik making training in the Puri Mojo Asri area, Sleman, Yogyakarta

III. LITERATURE REVIEW

This ecoprint technique is a process of transferring colors and shapes directly on the fabric. Ecoprint is known as a technique for printing colors and shapes on fabric through direct contact with the fabric by attaching plants that have color pigments to the natural fabric which are then steamed or boiled (Flint, 2008).

The ecoprint technique is used to decorate the surface of a fabric with a variety of shapes and colors produced from natural materials. This is something new in the community environment, where people use the natural resources that are around us to create textile products that are unique and popular among the people.

The coloring process in fabric processing is very important to consider and one of the determinants of the quality of textile products. The materials used in the coloring process can be done using natural dyes and artificial dyes. The advantages of using natural dyes in coloring on fabrics are cheap, environmentally friendly, and the resulting color is usually unique and unique.

The process of making this ecoprint batik is called unique because the process cannot be repeated. The coloring agents (leaves or flowers) used are not the same, each coloring agents which planted in different form will also affect the result. Ecoprint is a natural print technique without involving machines and chemicals. Making environmentally friendly batik is done by absorbing pigments from plants to produce attractive colors. Basically the plants used to print motifs on cloth are cherry leaves, teak leaves, starfruit leaves, red longan, guava leaves, castor leaves, teruju, kesumba and jinitri.

The process of making ecoprint batik starts with processing cloth or mordanting. Before the batik process begins, the cloth is soaked first using alum mixed water. This is done to maintain the basic color of the fabric and would open the pores of the fabric so that images can be easily printed. After that, the soaked cloth is dried in the sun.

For the printing process can be done by placing the selected flowers or leaves as printed material on the fabric. Leaves or flowers arranged in such a way that can create beautiful shapes. After that, steaming is done so that the color of the leaves comes out, and the last step is to do the fixation to tie the motifs and colors that have been printed on the fabric.

A. Mordanting

Mordanting is a coloring process with dyeing techniques to prepare fabrics so they can receive substances color well. Some substances that are usually used as mordanting are soda ash and alum. The objectives of the mordanting process are:

1. Increased ability to stick dyes to the fabric
2. Eliminating components in the fabric fibers that can inhibit the entry of dyes into the fabric
3. Strengthening the color so that the fabric does not fade easily
4. Increasing the attractiveness of natural dyes to the fabric in order to produce good color sharpness

The quality of coloring in the fabric is determined by the mordanting process. Thus, the mordanting process must be done carefully.

B. Stages of Making Ecoprint Batik:

1. Collecting leaves, flowers or twigs that will be used as a motive on the fabric
2. The ingredients that have been selected, soaked with vinegar water. The goal is that the colors and patterns are clearly visible when applied to the fabric.
3. Choose fabrics with natural fibers from plants or from animal skins. Natural fibers have the ability to absorb color well. This type of fabric such as cotton, linen, silk, wool, and animal skin.
4. Processing cloth or mordanting, which is to soak the cloth using alum water for approximately 3 days. The purpose of mordanting is to maintain the color of the material or fabric and open the pores on the fabric so that the motif can be printed perfectly.
5. The printing process is done by stretching a half-wet cloth with leaves, flowers or twigs that have been selected. Then arranged in such a way, then beaten with a hammer or stone. However, the strength at the time of beating must be regulated so that the natural material used is not destroyed and to keep the color of the material well absorbed in the fabric.
6. Fabric is rolled up on wood by maintaining the position of flowers or leaves that are used as a motif, for further steaming for 2 hours. The purpose of this steaming is so that the basic color of the leaves or flowers comes out.
7. After that, the fabric is allowed to stand for 3 days and clean the remnants of leaves or flowers found on the fabric.
8. The final stage is to fix by soaking a cloth using alum water to tie the colors and motifs so they don't fade.
9. The cloth is washed dry and then dried in the sun.

IV. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Batik ecoprint is a textile activity in the field of fashion that uses simple materials. The motifs produced by this ecoprint is unique because it is made using the desired type of flowers or leaves. Indonesia has various types of flowers that can be used to provide natural prints on batik cloth. The flowers and leaves used will produce a beautiful structure and pattern on the batik cloth, thus providing a high aesthetic value for the fabric. The aesthetic value generated from flowers and leaves gives satisfaction and comfort to its users because it gives the impression of being luxurious and elegant.

Textile products produced using ecoprint batik fabric processing techniques are able to compete in the market at fantastic prices and are able to seize the attention of consumers. Lately, people are more responsive to textile activities that not only prioritize profit, but must pay attention to environmental welfare as well. High public awareness of the importance of preserving the environment encourages producers to carry out production activities without damaging the preservation of nature. This is also in accordance with article 74 of Law Number 40 of 2007 concerning Limited Liability Companies, which relates to Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR). The ecoprint technique is still unfamiliar to some people, besides making use of the leaves around the environment in its making, procedures the making is also still fairly simple. That is why the target is rural communities. Because besides the material is easy to find, the manufacturing technique is also not difficult and requires a long time. In addition, in the world of clothing, the ecoprint technique is included in one of the fabric coloring techniques used in using natural materials such as plants to transfer colors and shapes onto fabric.

V. CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

A. CONCLUSION

The ecoprint technique is used to decorate the surface of a fabric with a variety of shapes and colors produced from natural materials, in fabric processing using the ecoprint technique it should be noted that not all types of leaves can be used as motifs for printing on fabric. Types of leaves that are suitable for ecoprint technique are leaves that have strong color pigments to produce clear colors on the fabric, such as cherry leaves, teak leaves, starfruit leaves, red litchi, guava leaves, teruju, kelumba and jinitri.

B. SUGGESTIONS

Based on the conclusions outlined above, there are a number of suggestions that can be taken into consideration in accordance with the research topic, namely:

1. It is necessary to increase exploration on plant parts (other than leaves) that can be used as print material, so that variations in motives.
2. The need for creation and combination of product manufacturing techniques, so that product variations will be created.
3. More attention needs to be paid to the principle of drafting the motif, so that the motives that exist in a product will be more beautiful.

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