

**SHIBORI BATIK TRAINING IN EFFORTS TO INCREASE CREATIVITY  
AND ECONOMIC INDEPENDENCE OF "REMAJA SAKTI" YOUTH  
ORGANIZATION OF COPER VILLAGE IN THE PANDEMIC ERA**

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**Abstract** - *To reduce the impact of COVID-19 in the economic sector, especially in the productive age, it is necessary to empower youth through increasing skills during this productive age. Soft skills are very important assets for teenagers during a pandemic. Through their soft skills, they can create jobs that can generate and increase economic independence. Soft skills which are the main assets for the young generation can also be used as a way for increasing various ideas and can even be implemented in various solutions or new ideas to overcome problems that exist in the surrounding environment. Even more than that, it creates valuable opportunities for young people to innovate even more. Training is one of several quite effective ways to develop soft skills and increase economic independence during a pandemic. The research method used is a descriptive qualitative method. Collecting data is carried out by techniques survey, observation/field research, and documentation. The participants in this training were "Remaja Sakti" Youth Organization of Coper Village, Jetis, Ponorogo. The implementation of shibori batik training is divided into two stages, namely; 1) General information delivery regarding shibori batik, tools and materials used; and 2) Implementation of the theory and practice of making shibori batik. The response from the training participants showed a very good response. After the training activities, the knowledge and soft skills of "Remaja Sakti" increased, as an effort to foster creativity and economic independence.*

**Keywords:** *Economy, Creativity, Shibori Batik*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Economics has always been a hot topic of discussion that never ends during a pandemic. The pandemic has a significant impact on all aspects of life, especially in the economic field. The impact of the pandemic especially on the economy has caused many people difficulty to fulfill their daily needs. This is because many people have been laid off and their income has decreased, causing most of the business sectors to reduce their production activities or close completely. As a result, the unemployment rate is increasing. In addition, the COVID-19 virus has also an impact on UMKM. There was a very significant decline, especially for UMKM owners, including providers of accommodation, tourism, restaurants, wholesale and retail trade, and transportation.

To reduce the impact of COVID-19 in the economic sector, it is necessary to empower youth at a productive age through increasing skills. The debriefing soft skills are expected to be a provision of youth to be ready to work as well as an entrepreneur who has a strong and competitive spirit. Soft skills are very important assets for teenagers during a pandemic. Through their soft skills, they can create jobs that can generate and increase economic independence. Soft skills, which are the main assets for the youth, can also be used as a forum to improve various ideas and even implement various solutions or new ideas to overcome problems that exist in the surrounding environment. Moreover, it allows creating valuable opportunities for young people to innovate even more.

COVID-19 also has an impact on the economic sector in Coper village which is located in Ponorogo, East Java. This proved true from the complaints of several UMKM owners, such as a drastic decline in sales, resulting in a decrease in income. Moreover, this is evidenced by the number of people who have to limit their daily expenses. Therefore, with the high decline in sales, many people need additional income to fulfill their daily needs. As is well known, during the COVID-19 pandemic, the economic sector was indeed the most affected. For this reason, it is important to understand the economic strategy, so that it becomes a provision to survive in difficult times like nowadays. The declining income of the people due to the pandemic has caused most of the business sectors to reduce their activities or close completely. The unemployment rate has also increased, this is a form of the extraordinary impact caused by COVID-19, especially on economic activity which is currently experiencing a drastic decline.

The potential of the Coper Kidul is quite large in the creative economy field, this is a consideration for the KKN 105 Ponorogo team to create a Shibori Batik Training program as an effort to provide knowledge related to Shibori Batik. Shibori Batik is well known and widely applied by fabric craftsmen in Indonesia (Muhammad et al, 2020).[1] It should be understood that shibori is a fabric dyeing technique in the form of ties, twists, stitches, wrapped, and clamped (Suantara, 2018). Shibori batik training is knowledge for teenagers to increase creativity and create economic independence in the pandemic era, so that youths of productive age

can develop their skills through Shibori Batik Training held by the KKN 105 Ponorogo team.

Based on this background, the KKN 105 Ponorogo team State Islamic University of Sunan Kalijaga Yogyakarta held a shibori batik training activity with Karang Taruna "Remaja Sakti" by providing guidance on folding techniques and coloring of shibori batik. This activity is expected to be able to provide knowledge and benefits for teenagers in creative economics.

## **2. METHOD**

The target of the Shibori Batik Training is "Remaja Sakti" Youth Organization of Coper Village, Jetis Ponorogo which was carried out on August 8, 2021. Participants in this study were "Remaja Sakti" Youth Organization of Coper Village. In this study, the researcher used a qualitative descriptive research method.[2] The data collection technique used in this research is through surveys, direct observation/observation in the field, and documentation. Researchers set three steps of analyzing the data. First, the data from surveys and observations that have been collected were analyzed descriptively. The description of Shibori Batik Training activity was carried out using descriptive hermeneutic analysis. Second, the researcher conducted a satisfaction survey related to how the community responds Shibori Batik Training. Third, researchers look for the relationship between Shibori Batik Training and improving the community's economy. In conclusion, the growth of the creative economic can increase through Shibori Batik Training.

## **3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **A. Shibori Batik Training**

In Indonesia, the term shibori is often referred to as jumputan and binding, although technically the process is by utilizing simple techniques according to the desired motif (Yanti et al, 2020)[3]. According to Helena Rizqia (2013) training is an activity to increase creativity and skills to be more productive[4]. In addition, the training on making shibori batik aims to increase knowledge, creativity, skills, and hone skills, especially for youth "Remaja Sakti" youth organization in Coper village, Jetis Ponorogo. The training process for making shibori batik is divided into two stages:[6]

#### **1) General information delivery by the resource person**

General information delivers directly by the resource person, Mrs. Himmatuz Zulfa. The delivery of this information was carried out before giving the material and theory of making Shibori Batik. General information is related to:

- a) Forms of activity;
- b) Work programs regarding training in making shibori batik. This aims to determine the suitability of work program that has been made with the needs of the community;

- c) The objectives and benefits that participants will get from the training activities for making shibori batik.
- d) Implementation of the theory and practice of making shibori batik

The theory is given simultaneously with the practice of making shibori batik, this is done to facilitate understanding and shorten the time, as well as limit the number of participants to avoid crowds. The delivery of theory and practice consists of:

- a) Introducing and providing knowledge related to shibori batik in general;
- b) Tools and materials used in making shibori batik;
- c) How to fold the fabric to form a basic fold;
- d) How to fold after the fabric forms a basic fold (isosceles triangle fold, equilateral triangle, small square fold, or large square fold);
- e) How to tie the fabric after a perfect fold is formed;
- f) How to mix dyes;
- g) How to dip the cloth in dye;
- h) How to dry Shibori batik



**Figure 1. Forming Basic Folds (Personal Image Source)**



**Figure 2. Folding the fabrics into variation forms (Personal Image Source)**



**Figure 3. Binding the fabrics (Personal Image Source)**



**Figure 4. Color Mixing Process (Personal Image Source)**



**Figure 5. Color Dyeing Technique (Personal Image Source)**



**Figure 6. Shibori Batik Drying Technique (Personal Image Source)**

### **B. After Shibori Batik Training**

After the shibori batik training was done, the researchers conducted the interviews with "Remaja Sakti" youth organization regarding the impressions and messages they felt during the training activities and also what new knowledge they gained after participating in the Shibori Batik Training. The results of their responses to the training program that have been carried out can be seen in the table below:

**Table 1. Indicators of Success of the Shibori Batik Making Training Program**

Type of Activity	Success Indicators	Percentage of Responses	Results
General	Work programs are being carried out according to the community wishes	100%	Very Good
	Benefits of Shibori Batik Training to increase the community's economic independence		
	Benefits of activities to increase the creativity		
	The suitability of the Shibori Batik Training with the needs of the community during the COVID-19 pandemic		
Theory and Practice	Delivery of materials	95.42%	Very Good
	Ease of understanding materials		
	Materials and tools are affordable and easy to obtain		
	Manufacturing procedures of shibori batik is easy to understand		
Post-Training	The results of the training in making shibori batik are useful for increasing creativity and also the soft skills of teenagers	89.95%	Very Good
	The results of training in making shibori batik are useful for increasing independence to fulfill daily needs and business especially during the COVID-19 pandemic		

### C. Participants' Responses

The responses of "Remaja Sakti" youth organization to general information delivery by resource persons related to a) Form of activity; b) Delivery of work programs regarding training in shibori batik making to gain knowledge regarding the suitability of the work program with the needs in the field; c) The objectives and benefits that will be obtained by the participants from the shibori batik-making training activities show very good results, which are 100%.

The responses of the "Remaja Sakti" youth organization regarding the delivery of theory and practice consisting of: a) Introducing and providing general knowledge regarding shibori batik; b) Tools and materials used in making shibori batik; c) How to fold the fabric to form a basic fold; d) How to fold after the fabric forms the basic fold (isosceles triangle fold, equilateral triangle, small square fold or big square fold); e) How to tie the fabric after forming a perfect fold; f) How to mix dyes; g) How to dip the fabric in the dye; h) and the method of drying Shibori batik showed very good and satisfactory results, namely 98.42%.

#### **D. The Relationship of Providing Shibori Batik Training with Increased Creativity, Soft Skills and Economic Independence**

Research by Hidayat & Syahid (2019) explains that training is one of the efforts to empower the community.[7] Training is defined as learning and also a process of providing experience to develop knowledge and skills to achieve the desired goals (Marzuki, 2012). There is a relationship link between the provision of Shibori batik training to changes in increasing creativity, skills, and also independence in business means that the Shibori batik training program can increase the creativity of "Remaja Sakti" youth organization in developing *soft skills* and also increase economic independence during the pandemic.

#### **E. Shibori Batik Motifs Produced**

Shouthan (2008) in his research explains that shibori batik motifs produced depend on the technique used in folding the fabric, the size of the fabric, and also the color combination is chosen. Likewise, according to Moertini and Sitohang (2005)[8] in their research explaining that the size of the cloth is also very influential on the shibori batik motif that will be produced, he explained that the smaller the size of the cloth used, the smaller the folds formed to produce motifs that tend to be tight. and small. He also explained that the combination of dark colors with bright colors will produce beautiful motifs. The selection of basic colors for shibori batik can be determined as desired. The choice of bright colors as the basic color of the fabric is the most popular because the colors will be easily covered by the colors that are the Shibori batik motifs. It needs to be proper and appropriate management in to apply the shibori technique to get the desired results, interesting, not boring, and worth selling because the more skilled in folding and dipping the colors on the fabric, the more appropriate new motifs will be obtained.[9]

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

Based on the implementation of the shibori batik training program, the results of data analysis and discussion, it was concluded that the training program for making shibori batik for "Remaja Sakti" youth organization in Coper Village, Jetis Ponorogo was as follows: a) Well implemented and fluent in providing knowledge new related to shibori batik for "Remaja Sakti" youth organization. The shibori batik training program is very useful for personal needs as well as to increase independence in business, and b) Succeeded in increasing creativity and developing the skills of the youth of Karang Taruna through a training program for making shibori batik. This can be seen from the skills, shrewdness, and dexterity of the participants when folding, and dipping the cloth in dyes to produce unique and diverse Shibori batik motifs.[10] This activity needs to be continued and carried out on an ongoing basis. This is because the material taught during the first training is only basic techniques, and the advanced techniques can be taught periodically. Batik shibori marketing activities should also be carried out, so that the benefits of the training can continue and the purpose of the training can be realized, and it can be

able to improve the community's economy, especially the young generation at the productive age in the COVID-19 pandemic era.[10]

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