

I Sai Nebaradosa: Reflection on Ecotheology Based on the Local Wisdom of the Sangihe Community

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ABSTRACT

Indonesian local wisdom is a noble heritage of our ancestors that must be protected and preserved. One of the constructive values of Nusantara local wisdom is the mutually respectful relationship between humans and nature. Regrettably, this relationship has shifted due to colonial domination of Nusantara theology. This research seeks to analyze how local wisdom, containing a distinctive Nusantara theology, can be utilized as material for reflection on the relationship between nature and humans today. The local wisdom discussed in this research originates from the Sangihe Islands Regency, North Sulawesi Province. This local wisdom is one face of Indonesia among many other local wisdoms from various regions in Indonesia that can contribute to an original ecotheological understanding that belongs to and originates from Indonesia.

The underlying question of this research is how the local wisdom of the Sangihe community can contribute to the development of ecotheology in Indonesia. To answer this question, a qualitative research method with a descriptive approach was chosen as the analytical tool. This method will assist in exploring the meaning of symptoms and phenomena. Choan-Seng Song's "Story Theology" will be used as the primary theoretical foundation for this research. To date, no previous research has been found that highlights the local wisdom of the Sangihe community as a foundation for ecotheology in Indonesia. Therefore, the study of ecotheology based on the local wisdom of the Sangihe community will be a novelty in this research.

This research is expected to offer an ecotheological perspective on the relationship between humans and nature. This ecotheological perspective can then be used to address the ecological crisis currently occurring in many parts of the world, including Indonesia. Furthermore, this research is also expected to view local wisdom as valuable and academic. Local wisdom can be analyzed as something philosophical and useful for human survival.

Keywords: *Ecotheology, Local wisdom, Nature, Ecology, Sangihe, Story Theology*