

The Potential of Tugu Juang Rantauprapat as a Historical Tourism Object In Labuhanbatu District

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Abstract

This study aims to determine the potential of the Juang Rantauprapat Monument as a Historical Tourism Object in Labuhanbatu Regency. In this study, the research method used by the author is a qualitative research method and interviews. Qualitative research seeks to understand situations in natural settings; the authors try not to manipulate the observed phenomena. The author uses data collection guidelines, namely interviews. The data collection method uses "snowball sampling" because, in this method, the number of informants is not predetermined, apart from the key informants, namely Labuhanbatu senior journalists and residents who live around the location. The results of this study found that Tugu Perjuangan 45 has the potential as a historical tourist spot, a unique place, rich in nature, easy to access, and processed by human hands as well as the historical value of the struggle of the Labuhanbatu people. Civil Government, under the leadership of M Djamaluddin Tambunan. Various factors of historical heritage influence the attractiveness of historical tourism, so it is necessary to identify all the elements to be studied. Local governments and communities around historical tourism areas are like links in a chain that support each other in developing and maintaining tourist attractions. In an era where all social media live every time.

Keywords: Potential, Monument of Fighting, Historical Tourism Objects

INTRODUCTION

Tourism potential is everything, whether it is in the form of geographical areas of events, local culture, atmosphere, objects and services, or behaviour habits of the community with various regional conditions that can be managed in such a way as to provide benefits as tourism objects (Mulya & Yudana, 2018). Tourism objects are activities to build, develop, maintain and preserve various inscriptions, buildings, plants, environment and other facilities (Heryati, 2019).

The abundance of natural resources that have the potential to be found throughout Indonesia in the form of natural tourist attractions in the mountains can increase income economically if it is managed optimally following tourist interests (Case et al., 2011). One of the historical monuments in the city of Rantauprapat, Labuhanbatu

Regency, is Tugu Juang 45, which is located at 3R2W+XJ6, Ujung Bandar, Rantau Selatan District, Labuhanbatu Regency, North Sumatra 21413. It is ± about 600 meters from the intersection of Jalan M Said, Jalan Lobusona and Jalan Tugu Juang 45 Rantauprapat. This monument is quite strategic, only 15 minutes from downtown Rantauprapat. The Tugu Juang 45 Lobusona area is about 12 x 12 in size, and the teenager is 100 x 80 cm, which should become an icon for Rantauprapat residents.

The building is hoped to be historical evidence of the struggle of the fighters to seize and fight for the independence of the Republic of Indonesia in Labuhanbatu from the hands of the Dutch Colonial invaders during the post-colonial period. The need for an excellent arrangement to fit the criteria for tourist sites; the general standards for performance are in the form of designing a

tourist area to be well organized (Noor et al., 2019). The monument witnesses the persistent struggle of the independence forces of the Labuhanbatu people in expelling Dutch colonialism.

However, the existence of the Juang 45 monument as a historical tourist attraction has not received full attention from the government and the community. This can be seen from the condition of the Juang 45 monument and the lack of information about existing historical tourist attractions. Therefore, to make Tugu Perjuangan 45 a historical tourist destination, it is necessary to reform the regional tourism institutions and the community as tourism members.

The concept of historical tourism object is an object concept that makes history a raw material for its tourist attraction. The idea of historical tourism includes the components of this location, including physical objects, environments with historical architecture, accumulation of cultural artefacts, historical events and artistic achievements (Silitonga & Anom, 2016).

The concept of historical tourism must pay attention to conservation efforts for historical heritage. The tourists to be visited must be adjusted to the characteristics and nature of the historical heritage used as an attraction, such as determining the types of historical tourism activities and market segments (Adi & Saputro, 2017).

A tourist attraction is anything that has a specific value to be enjoyed and visited by tourists in the form of uniqueness, diversity of natural wealth, ease of access, and traditional cultural values and customs of artificial areas that are the target of tourist visits (Satato et al., 2019). The reason for researchers studying this historical tourist attraction is because, so far, tourism development in various regions has been more dominant towards nature tourism, so it is necessary to explore multiple other tourism potentials that can increase the number of tourists and local revenue.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

The research method used by the author is qualitative. Qualitative research methods are used to obtain in-depth data containing meaning or actual data in determining the informants in this study using a purposive sampling technique, which is a technique for taking specific data sources with certain considerations. Qualitative research seeks to understand the situation naturally; the researcher tries not to manipulate the observed phenomena (Saroso, 2017). Primary data collection techniques consist of documentation of field conditions and interviewing several informants. At the same time, secondary data is obtained from relevant literature and regulations to support problem analysis to reach a more comprehensive conclusion. The data collected was then analyzed and processed qualitatively using the stages of qualitative data analysis, namely data reduction, where after collecting data related to the research topic, then summarizing and determining patterns and codes for the data to represent the research results. In the next stage, the data is presented (display data) as a short description/narration, identifying the relationship between various types of information and tables to facilitate concluding. The third stage is to complete the research findings concisely and clearly.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Tugu Juang 45 Lobusona has fulfilled the elements of a historical tourist destination because Tugu Juang 45 has an area or geographical area of the Bukit Barisan mountains that is different from other regions, has its own historical story, which is an additional historical tourist attraction and is supported by the beauty and coolness, the location of the monument, tourism facilities, friendly people and tourists are interrelated. Everything visited or targeted by tourists has uniqueness and value in the form of the diversity of natural wealth, ease of

access, cultural identity, and processing by human hands (Pamularsih, 2020).

Table 1. SWOT Analysis Results

Strengths (S)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. The air is cool. 2. Not noisy because it is far from the city 3. The natural landscape is the Bukit Barisan mountain. 4. Large enough parking area
Weaknesses (W)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Cleanliness is not considered. 2. Lack of management.
Opportunities (O)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Many visitors in 2017/2018. 2. Good road access. 3. The strategic location is ± 600 meters from the Cross-Sumatra intersection.
Threats (T)	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Many locations surround the place, including a waterpark and water boom promise. 2. It requires special attention from the security forces because the location is at the top and middle of a resident's plantation.

The SWOT Analysis of Tugu Juang 45 Lobusona provides an overview of the Potential of Tugu Juang Rantauprapat as a Historical Tourism Object in Labuhanbatu Regency. Everything that becomes an attraction for individuals so that they are willing to visit a certain area is called a tourist object (Gunardi, 2010).

In this interview, the researcher conducted a preliminary study to find information to be extracted from the informant. The informants from this interview were a senior Labuhanbatu journalist named Fajar Dame Harahap and Labuhanbatu resident Salman SImamora who had managed the 45 fighting monument.

Based on information obtained by the author from Mr Fajar Dame Harahap regarding the History of Tugu Juang 45, he stated: around mid-September 2017, the community formed the Labuhanbatu Community Movement, abbreviated GEMALA, to work together, namely the membolo movement/repair and preserve the 45 Lobusona Juang Monument which there is an impression of a lack of deep concern for its preservation. The condition is getting worse and worse. The physical building, which was inaugurated on August 15, 1996, by the Regent of

Labuhanbatu, who at that time held the position of H Banua Ispensyah Rambe, was made in such a way by GEMALA to make it more attractive to be developed into a tourist destination, a family photo spot.

In 2017 and 2018, many residents came to visit the location of the Juang 45 monument. Besides the area of the 45 Lobusona Monument, which is amazing, located right on the slopes of Bukit Barisan, several spots were made at the initiative of GEMALA for group photos.

In addition to the need to continue to be preserved as a centre for historical sources and data to increase the younger generation's knowledge. Especially the people of Labuhanbatu in knowing the history of the Labuhanbatu area. This area is also one of the witnesses to the history of the freedom fighters driving out the Dutch colonialists from this harbour.

At present, developments in all fields are running very fast, and the consequence is that the dynamics of society change in the pattern of life and human expectations increase. However, the conditions in this era of globalization, which is both an opportunity and a challenge, must be able to take advantage of all opportunities (Ravali & Mulyadi

2019). One of the opportunities that can be exploited is to empower the various potentials in the region, including local culture or history.

Based on folklore, formerly warriors from South Tapanuli, Asahan, and Labuhanbatu often met at this monument location to discuss opposition to the Dutch colonialists and the struggle to escape from the grip of the Dutch colonialists in the East Sumatra region. They organized resistance strategies so that the Dutch colonialists left this area. In 1996 the condition still kept several archives of the history of Labuhanbatu. Now it's hard to find even though the library is urgent as a historical tourist attraction.

The urgency of completing historical heritage buildings in developing and increasing cultural history-based tourist attractions is a reference for revitalization and restructuring programs in the context of interest in tourist visits (Aryawan et al., 2019).

The current factual condition, after not being in demand because one of the causes of Covid 19, which was previously in good infrastructure conditions, such as the availability of toilets and bathrooms, is far from the expected function. Not to mention, several places in that location are getting bushier. Because overgrown with grass. One service that can be offered to tourists visiting tourist sites is adequate facilities and infrastructure (Suryani et al., 2020). The use of location of Tugu Juang 45, which is right on the slopes of Bukit Barisan, has a truly amazing natural panorama.

It is necessary to create a tourism-aware society, which is fully aware and responsible for acting and behaving as a polite host, wearing clothes covering the rules of bathing in daily life to achieve tourism development goals by promoting (Delita et al., 2017). It can be managed as a Historical Tourism Destination Area to invite Domestic Tourists. It is also possible the presence of foreign tourists. The thing that encourages tourists to visit a tourist destination is its attractiveness. The

development of historical tourism areas can certainly be a source of income for the people, so it is important to implement this (Suranny, 2020).

The historical narrative from the informant dealing with Tugu Perjuangan 45, regarding the function of building a historical building, the residents admitted that they were not sure. There was once a Civil-Military Government centre under the leadership of M Djamaluddin Tambunan as the Military Regent's official with his Secretary Abdul Gani and the Chairman of the Labuhanbatu DPR Abdul Rahim Ja'far. And First Lieutenant Ibrahim Effendi Pardede as a seconded officer.

Apart from that, the Army Command led by Captain A Manaf Lubis as the Commander of South East Sumatra (STS) was also being carried out in this place—meanwhile, Captain M Sukardi as Commander of BAT Arjuna. Captain Rami Budiharjo, as Commander of BAT X., The Police Commissioner then, was Elisa Siregar's shoulder.

For Police Inspector, the position is Rustam Effendi Harahap. Syahdah, the reason for choosing this place as a military defence base and running the wheels of the Labuhanbatu Government. Because it has a strategic territorial area. Surrounded by swamps (now the residents' rice fields-ed). And its location in the highlands. Also, it is located on the slopes of Bukit Barisan, which has dense forests. Thus, it contains elements that can make it difficult for the enemy (colonizers) to carry out attacks.

Indeed, the DHC BP Keuangan 45 Labuhanbatu, as the place's manager, has tried to preserve it and construct a housing unit for guards tasked with caring for the Tugu Juang. However, the lack of allocation of funds provided by the local government causes the impression of 'abandoned' historical objects and tourist objects that should be the pride of the younger generation as the successors of this nation's struggle for independence. The informant's final statement, Mr Fajar Dame Harahap, questioned: "Will the

condition of the building be maintained in such a way that in turn the historical assets of the Labuhanbatu Regency Government experience degradation and damage to functions by the actions of a handful of ignorant and irresponsible hands."Information obtained by the author from Mr Salman Simamora regarding the activities of visitors who come to visit Tugu Juang 45 stated:

Visitors only enjoy the view of the Barisan Mountains and take selfies. Many visitors do not know about the history of Tugu Juang 45 Lobusona. Because, he said, several relatives/friends and visitors who met at that location said they often visited it only as a place for recreation and relaxation. Other young people make it a corner (dating). Ironically, our youth don't know the function of this building.

What's more, the connection with the history of the establishment of Labuhanbatu. "They said we were just sitting here casually, just relaxing. Concluding from the information obtained from the informant, Mr Salman Simamora, if asked whether the Juang 45 monument can become a tourist attraction, the answer is that it has great potential. This is supported by experience in 2017 and 2018. visit even until the manager prepares public transportation. I was amazed by the number of visitors who came then. Tugu Juang 45 is crowded with Labuhanbatu people to see historical sights. Based on the phenomena and facts obtained, it is necessary to research to determine the tourism potential and appropriate development strategies (Kartika et al., 2017).



Figure 1. Tugu Juang Main Street

After being repaired and painted by the people of Labuhanbatu, the main road

of the Tugu Perjuangan looks more attractive.



Figure 2. Tugu Juang Building 45

The main building of the Tugu Perjuangan 45 lobusona is one of the witnesses to the history of the freedom fighters driving out the Dutch colonialists from the Labuhanbatu area. Historical stories said that at Tugu Juang these fighters from South Tapanuli, Asahan, and Labuhanbatu often met to discuss the struggle, strategizing to expel the Dutch colonialists. After identifying the internal and external factors, a combination of strengths, weaknesses, opportunities, and threats is carried out through a SWOT analysis. This is done to identify the strategy to develop the potential of the Tugu juang'45 tourist attraction in Rantauparapat. First, this museum's SO (Strength and Opportunity) strategy is full of historical significance. The Labuhanbatu Regency Government can develop and promote this potential through the regional technical

implementation unit. The relationship between the management and tourism agencies needs to be maintained and improved to attract tourists to visit. The museum can also take a deeper approach to the local community. Exploring strengths and opportunities is quite important in the development of Tugu juang'45. This exploration activity can certainly be carried out routinely and periodically.

Second, the district government's WO (Weakness and Opportunity) Strategy can increase promotion through online media such as the official website. In addition, it adds to the cooperative relations that can be developed between government agencies and private institutions. Having more specific tourist visit data is also important. Tourist visit data can be a benchmark for the success of a tourist attraction.

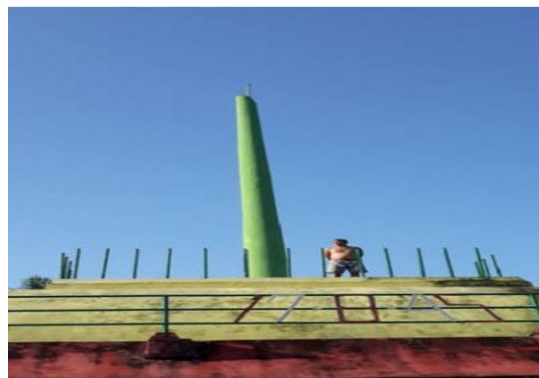


Figure 3. Peak of Tugu Juang 45

The independence fighters on duty at the top of Tugu Perjuangan 45 allow soldiers to monitor and monitor incoming

enemies because the location is on a plateau, so enemies are very easy to see from the top of the monument.



Figure 4. Visitors taking selfies Photo of Tugu Juang 45 Lobusona

The density of residents visiting the fighting monument's location enjoys nature's beauty and takes pictures with their families. You can see the row of hills and the natural beauty that is still beautiful. The better the existing facilities and infrastructure, the level of tourist satisfaction will increase and will give the impression that tourists have left the good tourist sites visited (Amelia & Prasetyo, 2022).

CONCLUSION

Tugu Perjuangan 45 has the potential as a historical tourist spot, a unique location, rich in nature, easy access, and processed by human hands and the historical value of the struggle of the Labuhanbatu people. The centre of the Military Civil Government, under the leadership of M Djamaluddin Tambunan. Various factors of historical heritage influence historical tourism's attractiveness, so it is necessary to identify all aspects to be studied. The local government and the people around the historical tourist area are like links in a chain that support each other in developing and maintaining tourist attractions. In an era where all live social media (FB, Twitter, TikTok, Ig) should spur the region to make the potential of the area a tourist attraction.

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