

# The Uniqueness of the Saoraja La Tenri Bali Traditional House of South Sulawesi in Terms of its Building



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**Abstract :** *The typical house of South Sulawesi is more typical of the Wajo Regency tribe called the traditional home of Saoraja La Tenri Bali. The purpose of this study was to look at the architecture of buildings in the Saoraja La Tenri Bali traditional house in the Wajo Regency. The results of this study illustrate that the traditional home of the Wajo Regency is a stilt house with a design of 101 poles because the number of poles supporting this house is 101 poles and is also one of the uniqueness of this traditional house. The primary building materials used are generally wood, a type of wood that is usually used ironwood to support the conventional house of Saoraja La Tenri Bali. The walls are composed of boards and a roof using a type of shingle roof. The structural system uses a home on stilts using support poles and uses a foundation; the house has 101 poles. Each pole weighs 2 tons made of ironwood from Kalimantan.*

**Keywords:** *Building, Traditional House, Unique, South Sulawesi, Indonesia*

## I. INTRODUCTION

The traditional house is a house built for a former community residence with an obligation to preserve its existence. In Indonesia, a conventional home is a symbol of the realization of a cultural system in society by having its architecture on the procedures, behavior, and values of social life. Traditional houses generally decorated with beautiful carvings, in ancient times, traditional houses looked the most beautiful usually owned by royal families or local traditional leaders using selected wood and the process was carried out traditionally involving experts in their fields, many conventional houses today still stand firmly and deliberately preserved and preserved as a symbol of Indonesian culture. In the current era of globalization, the world has entered a new era, where people globally have lived with a modern and more open form following the progress of the times (Gani, Arsyad, Hadi, & Yusriadi, 2019).

One of the cultural characteristics of *Wajo* Regency is the form of traditional house architecture. The traditional house of *Wajo* Regency has diversity in house elements such as house poles and spatial planning, which have an essential meaning in community life as a manifestation of identity or characteristic of *Wajo* Regency culture.

The traditional house of *Wajo* Regency functions as a place to live, also as a place to build togetherness between family and close relatives. The community actively and consciously maintains (Awaluddin, Siraj, & Yusriadi, 2019). Traditional society in *Wajo* Regency, building houses, is an essential part of one's life. So that the transformation of the form or model of modern homes does not abolish the traditional house values, the customs and traditions of the conventional house of the *Wajo* Regency will not be lost and can be passed on to the next generation. The structure is almost the same as other traditional tribal houses in South Sulawesi. *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house is a stage with the primary material in the form of wood or boards. The structure of the house on stilts uses as an earthquake-resistant home design.

*Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* comes from the *Bugis* language. *Sao Raja* is interpreted as a royal palace, while *La Tenri Bali* is one of the names of the king who once led the Kingdom of *Wajo*. *Arung Matoa* is the name of the local community for the leader of the *Wajo* Kingdom. So, *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* is the Palace of king *La Tenri Bali*. *Arung Matoa*, who had led the *Wajo* Kingdom, had different palaces and forms of power. For those families motivated by social status (Hasbi, Sukimi, Latief, & Yusriadi, 2019). The *Arung Matoa* has a characteristic, one of which is the *Sao Raja* they have. *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* is now known as one of the traditional houses and a tourist icon of *Wajo* Regency. Making this research attractive, because of the unique architectural buildings of the conventional home, so that makes it different from regular houses found in the province of South Sulawesi.

## II. RESEARCH METHOD

Descriptive research with a qualitative approach, namely research data collected in the form of words and the next stage was examined with a qualitative analysis approach in the descriptive form describing in detail about the facts and the relationships between the phenomena studied.

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Data in research on the architecture of the *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house, the subject was examined in the form of the physical form of the traditional house building. With the object studied was the educational value of the *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house architecture. Source of data in this study is data in the form of documents in the form of scientific work related to research. Research data collection was carried out by systematic recording of the architectural forms of the *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house. In this study, researchers used triangulation of sources means re-checking the degree of trust in information obtained through time and different tools in qualitative research. Analysis of the data used in research is analysis descriptive, so the data is described in words or sentences.

### III. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Indonesia is an island nation inhabited by diverse ethnic groups. Each region has a diversity of cultures including language, customs, and traditional arts with its characteristics so that Indonesia is rich in culture. One area that has a cultural identity in the province of South Sulawesi, *Wajo* Regency has a diversity of traditional house architecture. Inside the traditional house complex around *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* stands also the typical *Bugis* traditional houses for each district in *Wajo* Regency. The shape is similar to the traditional house of *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali*, only smaller in size and displaying the characteristics of each district. Demographic characteristics of the *Bugis* merchants in interisland trade, if it is a view from the gender of the merchants, then they are dominated by male entrepreneurs (Ansar, Farida, Yahya, & Yusriadi, 2019). *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house, there are several rooms that have different functions and location provisions. The traditional house has a unique aesthetic value and symbolic meaning in the form of architecture, the material used and there is an educational value in the architecture. *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* is a large stage house. The ground floor consists of 101 pillars. Local wisdom of traditional houses in South Sulawesi Province is marked by poles as a source of enthusiasm and ritual, such as the totality of the center and the edge, each corner of the house is marked by offerings and prayers. Poles are decorated when there are traditional ceremonies, dances are presented in the surroundings, and when the voyage is performed, that is the function of *Saoraja La Tenri Bali's* ground floor. Meanwhile, the main floor is used as a deliberation room. Understanding various communicative aspects must be complemented by an understanding of the culture in which the speech takes place (Juanda & Azis, 2018). Each ethnic group has cultural elements ranging from language, traditional ceremonies, and elements of traditional houses that are different from other ethnic groups. This form of local wisdom is a very valuable asset for Indonesia. Traditional house is one of the highest cultural representations in a society. The existence of traditional houses in Indonesia is very diverse and has significance in the perspective of history, and the progress of society in a civilization. In South Sulawesi Province consists of several districts have traditional houses with their own characteristics, one of which is *Wajo* Regency has its own

characteristics compared to other cities or districts in South Sulawesi (Amalia, 2014).

*Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* is somewhat unique. The shape of a house on stilts characterizes the traditional houses of South Sulawesi in general. But making it different is that it's substantial. The number of homes on shores for residents usually ranges from 12 to 20 poles. Many lessons about life such as the importance of respecting the old and respecting the young, shows how high and valuable the values of a culture (Yusriadi, Tahir, Farida, Sakkir, & Akbar, 2019). The diameter and shape of the pole also vary. *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* has 101 poles. The weight of the mast is fantastic, reaching 2 tons per pole, The shape of a roundhouse pole, not a rectangular shape like a house on stilts in general. The diameter of the pole is so large that it is challenging to bring the hands together when hugging the pole. *Sao Raja La Tenri Bali* often used as a center for cultural attractions in *Wajo* Regency. Every year they are always animated by cultural activities, local and national camp activities. Cultural exhibitions every Independence Day celebration has become an annual event. The *Bugis* traditional house is not only unique because of its shape but also because of its philosophical foundation, which depicts 3 things namely *bottling langi* (upper world), *ale kawa* (middle world) and *awa bola* (lower world) (Marwati & Andriani, 2017).

### IV. CONCLUSION

Knowledge is a branch of philosophy that deals with the nature and scope of knowledge, presuppositions, and fundamentals (Yusriadi, 2019). Preservation of the cultural heritage and traditions of the archipelago is one of the efforts to strengthen the national identity. Human resources are one of the most important factors that cannot even be released (Yusriadi, Sahid, Amirullah, Azis, & Rachman, 2019). The *Wajo* Regency Government, with a program of preserving local specialties that have been hundreds of years old, keeps *Saoraja La Tenri Bali* traditional house maintained and preserved. Local governments have a big responsibility to preserve cultural values, including the painting of traditional houses that have been hundreds of years old as well as efforts to boost the tourism sector. The government must go straight down, not just painting the house, so that more beautiful around the house also installed lighting lamps and parks, of course, traditional houses will look clean and will attract tourists.

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