



## Journal of Pragmatics and Discourse Research

journal homepage: <https://jurnal.ppjb-sip.org/index.php/jpdr/index>



### How Local Art Reveals Local Genius In The Corner Of The Discourse Point of View

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#### ARTICLE INFO

##### Article history:

Received 21 November 2022

Revised 26 December 2022

Accepted 24 January 2023

##### Keywords:

Civilization, local art, local genius, identity.

#### ABSTRACT

This study presents a comprehensive literature review on the discourse surrounding local genius in artistic practices within the context of Indonesia. The presence of highly diverse local geniuses, owned by various tribes across the archipelago, is a significant indicator of civilization in Indonesia, particularly in the region of West Sumatra. The significance of local genius is contingent upon its comprehension and admiration by individuals involved in its development, thereby transforming it into a source of community pride and fostering its conservation. If the local intellectual community is robust, there is no cause for concern regarding introducing external cultural elements that do not align with the Indonesian national identity. Indeed, individuals with exceptional intellectual abilities from foreign cultures can serve as catalysts or facilitators for nurturing indigenous genius in Indonesia.

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#### 1. Introduction

The formation and establishment of Indonesian culture as a defining cultural entity are inherently intertwined with the profound impact of local culture. Specifically the indigenous cultural practices and traditions. This phenomenon has persisted since the era preceding the emergence of Hinduism. The development of local culture is intricately linked to the contributions of local intellectuals, who can imbue Indonesian culture with its unique colors and nuances (Maryelliwati et al., 2018). Three primary features characterize Indonesian culture: firstly, it remains rooted in indigenous elements; secondly, it incorporates elements from religious cultures such as Hinduism, Islam, and other faiths; and thirdly, it exhibits a distinct national identity that can be observed in both the local and national levels (Alfian, 1985). Discussing a singular national culture poses significant challenges within Indonesia's diverse and pluralistic society.

Nevertheless, it is noteworthy that local cultures are widely dispersed across various regions. The archipelago offers a pleasurable experience for visitors. According to Kartodirdjo (1993), the national culture encompasses various local cultures that have been assimilated by ethnic groups residing outside the region. The local culture of West Sumatra is widely recognized and appreciated in various regions across the archipelago (Maryelliwati et al., 2019). It encompasses diverse artistic expressions, including the traditional dance form "Seni Tari Serampang dua belas," the literary tradition of "susastra Tambo," and even the performing arts of vocal and instrumental music. While most of Sumatra has its own unique cultural identity, it is also worth noting that the Batak culture, predominantly found in North Sumatra, and

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<https://doi.org/10.51817/jpdr.v3i1.299>

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the Javanese culture, including the Sundanese and Javanese subcultures, have garnered significant academic interest due to their historical-artistic, and sociocultural significance (Bustomi, 1992). These cultures have rich traditions, including distinct music, dance forms, literature, and customs. The significance of local prodigies in comprehending and valuing their vocation in creating diverse manifestations of cultural arts, dance, music, and architectural structures, particularly ancient edifices like temples, is noteworthy. These achievements, which serve as national pride sources and garner global community admiration, warrant careful examination and appreciation (Danandjaja, 1994). Local genius holds significant value in comprehending and valuing the local community's cultural diversity and artistic creations. Local genius encompasses local communities' knowledge, skills, and wisdom in creating distinct cultural and artistic expressions.

Within the cultural framework of Indonesia, encompassing regions such as West Sumatra and others, the concept of "local genius" assumes significance in the facilitation and preservation of distinctive artistic traditions (Geertz, 1963). The production of artistic works that reflect cultural identity can be achieved by individuals who possess a profound comprehension of local cultural, historical, mythological, and traditional values, thereby inheriting what is commonly called "local genius." In dance, proficient dancers possess a profound understanding of traditional movements and their associated symbolic significance, enabling them to convey intricate narratives and profound expressions effectively. Within the realm of music, individuals who possess a profound comprehension of customary instruments and regional musical genres possess the capacity to create compositions that embody an authentic essence. Similarly, in the field of architecture, the concept of "local genius" enables architects to integrate regional customs and practical as well as artistic elements in the construction of buildings. Ancient structures, such as temples, are significant exemplars of cultural heritage widely revered by the global community. The temples exhibited a remarkable level of "local genius" during the period, as evidenced by their aesthetic appeal, distinctiveness, and architectural mastery. A comprehensive comprehension of the historical milieu, religious ideologies, and societal customs prevalent during the era is crucial in developing a profound admiration and comprehension of the aesthetic allure and symbolic significance encapsulated within these archaic edifices.

Recognizing and comprehending "local genius" and artistic creations from the local community can manifest reverence towards cultural identity and national heritage. This phenomenon enhances national pride in Indonesia's cultural diversity and fosters a heightened recognition of our country's cultural abundance within the global community. Respecting the "local genius" holds significant importance as it safeguards the integrity of artistic and cultural creations, ensuring their preservation within their original milieu and facilitating their appropriate appreciation. This necessitates establishing collaborative efforts, cultivating appreciation, and adopting a diplomatic approach toward the individuals and communities responsible for shaping said culture. Within dance and music, local genius encompasses a profound understanding of traditional movements, rhythms, and melodies that form the fundamental essence of distinct cultural identities. Dancers and musicians who deeply understand the local cultural heritage demonstrate the ability to interpret and communicate narratives, societal principles, and affective states through their artistic manifestations. When coordinating cultural festivals, performing arts showcases, or similar events encompassing local culture, it is imperative to actively engage the local community and acknowledge the contributions of artists, musicians, architects, and other stakeholders responsible for preserving and advancing this cultural heritage. Within dance and music, local prodigies' presence plays a significant role in upholding the distinctiveness and integrity of indigenous culture. Local dancers and musicians with exceptional talent demonstrate a profound understanding of the intricate movements, rhythmic patterns, melodic structures, and cultural nuances that significantly influence their artistic expressions.

Artists can convey narratives, principles, and sentiments through their artistic manifestations and profound comprehension of the indigenous culture. They can animate cultural heritage and effectively convey cultural messages to the audience. When coordinating cultural festivals, art performances, or other events encompassing local culture, it is imperative to engage the local community actively. This practice guarantees that individuals involved in preserving and advancing cultural heritage, such as artists, musicians, architects, and other relevant stakeholders, receive appropriate compensation. Including local communities can enhance comprehension of the cultural context and foster the active engagement of

these communities in endeavors aimed at safeguarding and advancing their cultural heritage. Appropriate acknowledgment encompasses various forms of support, including financial assistance, recognition of artistic endeavors and accomplishments, extensive promotion, and acknowledgment of their role in preserving cultural heritage. This also entails engaging the local community in planning and decision-making about cultural events, fostering a sense of ownership and responsibility for cultural preservation endeavors. By actively participating in the involvement of local communities and acknowledging the contributions of artists, musicians, architects, and other relevant stakeholders, we can effectively safeguard and promote the preservation of local cultural heritage. This approach ensures local cultural heritage's continued existence and prosperity and generates social, economic, and cultural identity advantages for the communities involved. The broader societal context. The examination of local art through the lens of local genius within the framework of discourse, as it pertains to the scientific study of discourse, presents a captivating subject for discussion.

## 2. Method

This study falls under the classification of literature review research. This study aims to present scientific findings from a comprehensive literature review and a series of interviews. Literature review research is a methodological approach that involves synthesizing information from diverse literature sources to understand a specific subject matter comprehensively (Putra et al., 2021). This study will employ a combination of data from a comprehensive literature review and interviews to elucidate the scientific comprehension of the subject under investigation. The literature review research involved several steps, including selecting a topic and identifying relevant literary sources (Rahmat, 2016). This was achieved by conducting a comprehensive literature search using databases of scientific journals, libraries, and various online sources. Please identify sources pertinent to the research topic, encompassing scholarly journal articles, books, theses, and prior research reports.

Next, conduct a comprehensive analysis of the literature that has been chosen. This inquiry aims to discern recurring patterns, overarching themes, or notable distinctions within prior scholarly investigations. Document the primary discoveries corroborating or challenging the proposed hypothesis or research objectives. The subsequent phase involves synthesizing and summarizing the literature's findings, wherein a framework or concept is developed to integrate prior research outcomes. In conjunction with the data from the literature review, this study also incorporated interviews with experts or practitioners affiliated with the subject matter under investigation. Interviews have the potential to offer a more comprehensive understanding and supplementary insights that are not readily accessible through existing literature. Subsequently, the data obtained from the interviews should be analyzed through summarization, identification of emerging patterns or themes, and subsequent comparison with the findings from the literature review. The amalgamation of data from thoroughly examining existing literature and collecting primary data through interviews can yield a more comprehensive and nuanced comprehension of the research subject matter.

## 3. Result

According to orientalist, local geniuses are believed to be significantly influenced by foreign influences or reliant on the fluctuation of such influences. The assertion made in the preceding statement is not entirely accurate, as local artistic traditions have persisted throughout history despite the intermittent presence of foreign influences. These influences have included Hinduism, Buddhism, Christianity, Islamism, Westernisation during British and Dutch colonization, and even Japanese influence during wartime. The Pacific Ocean exerts dominance over the Archipelago. According to Soekmono (1986), the local genius plays a crucial role in shaping the trajectory of development in a specific region, irrespective of its pre-India or pre-Westernization status. The local genius, frequently acknowledged as the progenitor of indigenous culture, represents a cultural construct encompassing diverse aspects of Indonesian society. Ethos is a significant driving force that permeates the intricate fabric of culture, fostering coherence among diverse elements. This, in turn, imbues culture with vitality and engenders a distinct structure, thereby forging a unique identity. According to Indonesian cultural experts, including elements from foreign cultures does not warrant questioning. The cultural elements present in regional culture may be regarded as products of local

individuals with exceptional abilities whose endurance has been demonstrated over time. The final task is to determine the selection of a specific local genius culture.

The term "local genius" generally pertains to indigenous knowledge possessed by community members and transmitted intergenerationally. This encompasses a comprehensive comprehension of the culture, traditions, indigenous knowledge, and distinctive skills specific to a particular geographical area or social group. The manifestation of local genius serves as a testament to the cultural abundance of a community, offering profound insights into the distinctive attributes of their cultural heritage. This phenomenon is evident in diverse domains of human existence, including but not limited to artistic expression, architectural design, agricultural methods, craftsmanship, indigenous understanding of the natural world, and customary rituals and customs. The concept of local genius frequently encompasses the capacity to confront environmental challenges and devise distinctive solutions specific to the local context. A comprehensive comprehension of the essence of local genius can be attained using scholarly investigation and a thorough examination of the existing body of literature about this concept (Yusutria, 2019). This encompasses academic publications and research studies that delve into the phenomenon of local genius within the cultural dynamics and indigenous knowledge systems of a specific geographical region or community.

The relationship between local genius and the advancement of local art can be examined through straightforward methodologies, such as assessing qualitative and subjective aspects. This analysis serves as a foundation for the notion that local art, which embodies local genius, can be attributed to its inherent oriental characteristics and the potency of expression in its works. The correlation between local genius and local arts advancement can be analyzed through a straightforward qualitative and subjective methodology. This methodology facilitates a more profound comprehension of orientality and the inherent potency of expression within indigenous artistic practices. Within this framework, a qualitative methodology encompasses firsthand observation of indigenous artwork, engagement with local artists or cultural figures, and examining the sociocultural and historical backdrop within which the artwork emerges. By employing this methodology, scholars can investigate the interpretations, communications, and principles encapsulated within regional artistic creations while also experiencing the profound impact of artistic expression demonstrated by practitioners. The subjective approach acknowledges that personal viewpoints and individual encounters significantly shape assessments and analyses of regional art. This enables researchers to articulate their perspectives on the aesthetic appeal, distinctiveness, and cultural significance inherent in indigenous artwork, drawing upon their interpretations and insights.

This approach facilitates a comprehensive comprehension of orientality, specifically the fundamental aspects of culture and indigenous knowledge that differentiate local artwork from other cultural expressions. In this context, the term "orientality" pertains to the discernible and singular characteristics of the indigenous culture that are manifested in their artistic expressions. The efficacy of local art in conveying messages, emotions, and narratives indicates artists' aptitude for expressive communication through their artistic endeavors. The subjective approach enables the researcher to personally acknowledge and appreciate the potency of this form of expression, thereby enhancing the comprehension of indigenous art and its connection to local prodigies. Nevertheless, it is crucial to acknowledge that this straightforward, qualitative, and subjective method can be enhanced and supplemented by additional scientific and analytical methodologies. Incorporating diverse methodologies can yield a more comprehensive and unbiased understanding of the connections between indigenous prodigies and the advancement of regional artistic endeavors.

To comprehensively comprehend the indigenous intellectual capacity necessary to facilitate the advancement of modernization, scientific progress, technological innovation, and artistic development equitably, it is imperative to possess a deep understanding of the contemporary issues and challenges, particularly within the realm of the arts (Puspowardjojo, 1986). During the period when Hindu traders arrived, it was observed that the majority of them engaged primarily in the trading of handicraft items. Consequently, their presence did not exert a direct transformative influence on the established social structure of the local community. This implies that the livelihood of the Indonesian populace remains unaffected by the craft industry. This facilitates the Indonesian population in preserving the indigenous ingenuity that aligns with the prevailing societal framework, in contrast to the commercial activities conducted by individuals from Western societies. Several key features distinguish the capitalist economy.

One of them is the utilization of mass production facilitated by a labor market that operates on the principles of freedom. This financial system enables the flow of market trade and the prevalence of unrestricted competition. The impact of Western trade on individuals' lives can gradually and directly influence their cultural assimilation, potentially hindering the development of local talents rooted in tradition and potentially eroding the fundamental values of local communities.

The acculturation process, particularly among individuals in Asia, including Indonesia, is perceived to be notably challenging and arduous. The phenomenon of open trade and the widespread adoption of advanced technology will lead to acculturation regarding technology transfer. This process enables individuals to develop their means and tools of trade technology, characterized by high quality. Consequently, it fosters the emergence of a society that is not solely focused on consumption but strives to emulate Western culture and lifestyle. In Indonesia, there is a noticeable trend where modern Western values replace traditional values. Indonesia has a discernible trend characterized by transitioning from traditional to contemporary Western values. In various Asian regions, distinct patterns of development have emerged. These regions have effectively undertaken the process of acculturation by assimilating Western orientations, perceptions, and technological systems. This assimilation has bolstered their resilience and enhanced their capacity to harness the resources offered by their natural environment. In Indonesia, Western influences are frequently perceived as contributing to challenges related to disorientation, disintegration, and dysfunctionality within various aspects of individuals' lives. Indonesian society exhibits a bias towards exotericism and a propensity for transcendental orientation. Suppose this orientation lacks a balance with an openness to external influences, referred to as exotericism, and a focus on the tangible and practical aspects of the world. In that case, it may pose challenges in fostering a productive, progressive, and favorable societal stance towards technology. To facilitate the modernization process, it is imperative to harness the intellectual prowess of local individuals who deeply understand the cultural nuances prevalent within their community. These individuals, often called local geniuses, possess unique skills and knowledge that can be utilized as fundamental tools in pursuing modernization. The objective of fostering local talent in this context encompasses both internal (subjective) and external (objective) dimensions (Puspowardjojo, 1986).

Hence, within the context of enhancing local arts development, it is imperative to identify indigenous talents that naturally emerge and flourish within society. These talents should be cultivated and manifested through orientations, perceptions, attitudes, and lifestyles conducive to modernization while preserving individuality. The concept of nation and its relationship with art. Identifying and recognizing local individuals who exhibit exceptional intellectual abilities and demonstrate organic growth within their communities is important. The local genius in question can be regarded as a cultural asset that can be cultivated and manifested in alignment with contemporary orientations, perceptions, attitudes, and lifestyles. Preserving national identity and local arts is paramount in modernization to ensure safeguarding and prevent potential disregard or erosion. The preservation and recognition of the values, traditions, and indigenous knowledge that define the cultural fabric of a community are essential in achieving this objective. Within this particular context, the presence of indigenous intellectual prowess assumes a significant role in the preservation of cultural identity and the establishment of a robust framework for the advancement of local artistic endeavors. The fostering and revelation of indigenous talent within the community can encompass a range of endeavors, including:

- 1) Comprehensive examination and comprehension of local values and traditions: Delving into and comprehending the community's preexisting local values, traditions, and wisdom. This can be achieved utilizing conducting research, engaging in interviews with prominent community figures, and actively participating in cultural events.
- 2) Implementing a collaborative framework involving local artists and the community aimed at fostering active engagement and community participation in the artistic creation process and local arts advancement. The community's knowledge and contribution to expressing their local genius are highly valued and appreciated.
- 3) The topic of education and training is of great significance in contemporary society. The objective is to impart education and training to young individuals regarding the local arts, enabling them to comprehend, cultivate, and manifest local talents creatively and innovatively.
- 4) Integration of technology and contemporary media: Incorporating technology and modern media in advancing local arts while preserving the fundamental essence and values of the prevailing culture.



One illustrative instance involves the utilization of digital media as a means to distribute and endorse local artworks to a broader demographic.

It is imperative to remember that the modernization of indigenous arts does not entail wholesale assimilation of styles or trends originating from foreign cultures. The process above pertains to the evolution and adaptation of indigenous art forms that uphold a nation's cultural principles and collective identity while concurrently addressing contemporary societal needs. By striking a harmonious equilibrium between the advancement of modernization and the preservation of sustainable local culture, it becomes possible to cultivate a dynamic and innovative local art scene that possesses broad appeal on both national and international platforms. This approach ensures the retention of our cultural richness and identity. When modernizing local arts, upholding a harmonious equilibrium between preserving tradition and introducing change is crucial. Modernization does not necessarily entail completely assimilating external cultural styles or trends, which may potentially overshadow or dilute local cultural and artistic identities. Contrarily, the modernization of indigenous art primarily entails advancing and altering artistic practices that uphold cultural principles and preserve national identity while remaining pertinent to contemporary societal needs. The modernization of local arts can encompass various dimensions, such as:

- 1) The act of reinterpreting tradition involves the application of novel perspectives to traditional elements within local arts. This may encompass exploring various forms, styles, and techniques and engaging in collaborative endeavors with artists from diverse artistic domains.
- 2) Fostering Innovation within the Local Context: Promoting the development of innovative practices in local arts by carefully considering local needs and contextual factors. This study aims to analyze the challenges and opportunities encountered by local arts and propose innovative and pertinent solutions.
- 3) The employment of contemporary technology and media: Employing modern technology and media as instruments for advancing, promoting, and distributing local arts. This may entail implementing strategies to optimize the utilization of digital media, online platforms, and production technologies.
- 4) Facilitating intercultural collaboration: Facilitating opportunities for collaboration with external artists or cultural figures who possess a comprehensive understanding and appreciation of the local arts. Collaborating has the potential to enhance and stimulate the advancement of regional artistic endeavors while preserving cultural authenticity.

When endeavoring to modernize local arts, it is imperative to actively engage and demonstrate reverence towards local communities, artists, and cultural figures who possess an intimate comprehension of indigenous artistic brilliance and the associated cultural legacy. Including community members in decision-making and advancing local arts can effectively preserve the alignment between cultural values and identities amidst ongoing changes. By adopting an appropriate methodology, modernizing local arts can enhance, invigorate, and broaden the recognition of indigenous artistic expressions, all while preserving the intrinsic authenticity and cultural legacy that serves as a source of national pride.

#### 4. Discussion

The literature review reveals that utilizing local genius within the realm of art can yield noteworthy effects, particularly in fostering a dialogue surrounding global heritage by acknowledging and nurturing local artistic expressions. The comprehension and articulation of indigenous brilliance can serve as a mechanism for enhancing and advocating for cultural plurality while fostering a heightened recognition of local artistic endeavors as integral components of a significant global legacy. Within this framework, local genius holds significant potential as a fundamental component in constructing a discourse surrounding world heritage. The expression of local genius through local art serves as a defining characteristic of the cultural identity of a particular region or community. Incorporating local artistic talent can reinforce assertions and acknowledgment of regional cultural heritage, thereby enhancing its prospects of attaining global recognition as a world heritage site. By fostering the growth of indigenous artistic expressions rooted in local talent, communities can cultivate dialogues that advocate for safeguarding, conserving, and advancing their cultural legacy. Promoting local cultural values through artistic means can foster sustainable behavior and contribute to preserving cultural heritage.

Furthermore, establishing a discourse on world heritage by showcasing local ingenuity and artistic expressions can facilitate cultural interchange, promote cultural tourism, and foster the growth of a creative

economy within the local community. Including local art within the world heritage framework can enhance the appreciation, interest, and community engagement surrounding these artistic expressions. Moreover, such recognition can catalyze the growth and sustainability of creative industries. The involvement of various stakeholders, such as the local community, government officials, academics, and art practitioners, is crucial in developing a discourse on world heritage rooted in local genius and artistic expression. The enhancement of sustainable development in local arts and the preservation and acknowledgment of cultural heritage can be bolstered through collaboration and synergy among diverse stakeholders. Therefore, utilizing local artistic talents can be a viable approach to fostering a robust dialogue on global heritage by promoting the appreciation, conservation, and advancement of diverse and distinctive local artistic expressions. The literature review findings indicate that local genius within local art holds considerable potential for generating a substantial influence, particularly in fostering a discourse surrounding global heritage through local genius and local art. Several aspects require consideration in this particular context.

- 1) The preservation and advancement of cultural heritage: Utilizing local expertise can be viable for sustaining and progressing cultural heritage within a specific region or community. The preservation and broader appreciation of local values, traditions, and wisdom can be achieved by showcasing the talent and creativity of local artists and artisans.
- 2) An Overview of Cultural Identity: Utilizing local genius and local art can serve as a means to acquaint the global community with the cultural identity of a given society. Through their distinct and unparalleled artistic expressions, local arts can effectively convey cultural values, historical narratives, and vibrant traditions to global audiences.
- 3) Enhancing awareness and fostering appreciation: Using indigenous talent in regional artistic endeavors can heighten awareness and cultivate a deeper appreciation for local culture and its diverse manifestations on a global scale. Engaging local and international communities in art performances, cultural festivals, and other events that showcase local arts facilitates a deeper comprehension and heightened appreciation for these artistic expressions' distinctive qualities and aesthetic appeal.
- 4) The development of cultural tourism can be greatly enhanced by incorporating local genius and local art as prominent attractions. Local communities can cultivate tourism destinations that prioritize genuine and distinctive cultural encounters, thereby generating favorable economic and social impacts within the community.
- 5) The establishment of intercultural dialogue can be facilitated through the involvement of local artistic talents who deeply understand their own culture. By engaging in artistic expression, these individuals can foster a respectful and mutually beneficial exchange between local and global cultures, strengthening their relationship. The exchange of ideas, influence, and collaboration with artists from diverse cultural backgrounds can enhance local arts and foster opportunities for broader cooperation.

In general, incorporating indigenous talent within regional artistic endeavors can foster a robust dialogue surrounding global heritage and cultural principles using the manifestation of imaginative and genuine local artwork. The involvement of local communities, artists, cultural experts, and other relevant stakeholders is crucial to achieving sustainable development and effectively harnessing local talents in constructing global heritage narratives through local arts.

## 5. Conclusion

Promoting cultural exchange, cultural tourism, and the development of a creative economy within the local community can be facilitated by establishing a discourse on world heritage, which highlights local ingenuity and artistic expression. Incorporating indigenous artwork into the global heritage framework promises augmenting these artistic manifestations' recognition, fascination, and communal involvement. Furthermore, the acknowledgment of creative industries can function as a catalyst for their expansion and long-term viability. The participation of diverse stakeholders, including the local community, government officials, scholars, and artists, plays a pivotal role in fostering a dialogue on a global heritage firmly grounded in local ingenuity and artistic manifestations. Promoting sustainable development in local arts and the conservation and recognition of cultural heritage can be strengthened by fostering collaboration and

synergy among various stakeholders. Hence, incorporating local artistic abilities can be considered a viable strategy for facilitating a comprehensive discourse on global heritage, as it encourages the recognition, preservation, and progression of various and unique local artistic manifestations.

### Declaration of Conflicting Interest

The authors must state that there is no conflict of interest concerning the publication of this paper.

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