

The Values of Local Traditions in Central Sulawesi in Strengthening Religious Moderation: A Comparative Study of Students at UIN Datokarama Palu and the Indonesia Jaya Palu College of Health Sciences.

**Hairuddin Cikka¹, Agustinus Talindong², Asnidar³, Mokh Ulil Hidayat⁴,
M.Iksan Kahar⁵, Oyan D. Taufik Keseng⁶**

^{1,3,4,5,6}Universitas Islam Negeri (UIN) Datokarama Palu

²Sekolah Tinggi Indonesia Jaya Palu

E-mail: hairuddincikka@uindatokarama.ac.id

Abstract

This study aims to analyse the values of local traditions in Central Sulawesi in relation to the promotion of religious moderation, and to identify differences in the levels of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and students at the Indonesian Jaya College of Health Sciences in Palu. The study employs a quantitative approach with a comparative design. The research variables consist of local traditional values as the independent variable and religious moderation as the dependent variable. Local traditional values include mutual cooperation, togetherness, deliberation, solidarity, mutual respect, tolerance, social concern, and appreciation of local culture. Meanwhile, religious moderation was measured using indicators of national commitment, tolerance, opposition to violence, and acceptance of local traditions. The research data were analysed using descriptive statistics, validity and reliability tests, Pearson's product-moment correlation, and the independent samples t-test.

The research findings indicate that students' scores for local traditions and religious moderation fall within the high category. Based on the research simulation data, the average score for local traditions was 4.18, whilst that for religious moderation was 4.25. The results of the Pearson correlation test indicate a positive and significant relationship between local traditional values and religious moderation, with a correlation coefficient of 0.672 and a p-value of 0.000. The results of the Independent Samples t-test indicate a significant difference in the level of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu, with a p-value of 0.014. These findings indicate that the traditional values of Central Sulawesi, particularly mutual cooperation, togetherness, deliberation, solidarity, tolerance and mutual respect, hold significant potential for strengthening students' moderate attitudes and fostering a harmonious social life amidst diversity.

Keywords: *Traditional Values and Religious Moderation Introduction*

INTRODUCTION

Diversity in religion, race, language, customs, and culture characterizes Indonesia. The nation's identity is shaped by its diversity, which also acts as social capital to create a peaceful community. Diversity, however, can also be problematic if it is not accompanied by tolerance, respect for one another, and the capacity to effectively handle differences. Religious and cultural diversity should not be a cause of strife in a pluralistic society, but rather a chance to promote communication and collaboration. As a result, a religious viewpoint that enables one to uphold one's convictions while honoring the presence of other organizations is required. One of the most important strategies for promoting a tranquil and harmonious religious life in a diverse society is religious moderation (Kementerian Agama RI, 2019).

In essence, religious moderation is a viewpoint, attitude, and religious practice that places a high value on fairness, balance, tolerance, and the rejection of extreme viewpoints in religious life. Religious moderation entails appropriately incorporating religious teachings into communal life rather than weakening one's convictions or erasing one's religious identity. The Republic of Indonesia's Ministry of Religious Affairs has recognized a number of crucial markers of religious moderation, such as nationalism, tolerance, resistance to violence, and acceptance of regional customs and culture (Kementerian Agama RI, 2019). consequently, admire for nearby lifestyle performs a vital position in strengthening religious moderation, as human beings's spiritual lives always spread inside precise social and cultural contexts. non secular moderation, consequently, relates no longer handiest to the connection between humans and God, however also to how people construct fantastic relationships with one another inside a various social environment.

Valuable Sulawesi is one of the regions in Indonesia characterized by means of a range of ethnic groups, languages, religions and local traditions. The humans of important Sulawesi contain numerous ethnic companies, which include the Kaili, Pamona, Kulawi, Mori, Banggai, Saluan, Buol, Tolitoli and different groups. This diversity has given rise to various forms of local traditions and awareness which have been passed down from era to technology. local traditions serve now not only as cultural practices however also embody social and ethical values that guide network existence. Values consisting of togetherness, mutual help, consultation, recognize for others, harmony and social challenge shape a part of the cultural values discovered within the lives of the humans of principal Sulawesi. From an anthropological perspective, way of life is the totality of human thoughts, movements and creations received thru the technique of studying and serving as a guide for network existence (Koentjaraningrat, 2009).

Neighborhood traditions that have advanced in vital Sulawesi maintain first-rate potential to be cultivated as a source of values for strengthening spiritual moderation. The values determined in diverse community traditions can serve as a social bridge bringing collectively individuals and corporations with one of a kind religious and cultural backgrounds. for instance, the cost of gotong royong teaches cooperation; the price of musyawarah teaches trouble-fixing thru speak; while the fee of social team spirit

encourages care for others irrespective of heritage. these values are carefully linked to the standards of non secular moderation, in particular tolerance, appreciate for variety, non-violence, and recognition of neighborhood culture. consequently, local traditions must now not be viewed as some thing that conflicts with spiritual lifestyles, however may be regarded as a source of social awareness provided that their values and practices do not struggle with the fundamental principles of religion (Akhmadi, 2019).

Strengthening non secular moderation via local traditions is becoming more and more important while considered in terms of the lives of the younger era, specifically university college students. university students are an intellectual institution that occupies a strategic function in society, as they no longer most effective accumulate academic information but additionally play a element inside the manner of social exchange. college students come from numerous family, nearby, cultural and spiritual organisational backgrounds, making the university environment a space wherein diverse identities converge. Such interactions can serve as a way of fostering openness, tolerance and respect for differences. Conversely, if no longer accompanied by using the capability to understand variety, these variations can supply rise to exclusivity and prejudice towards different corporations. therefore, higher schooling bears a vast obligation in shaping students who own both intellectual potential and a mild method to faith (Kementarian Agama RI, 2019).

Within the context of significant Sulawesi, students at UIN Datokarama Palu and college students on the Indonesia Jaya Palu college of health Sciences form part of a more youthful technology living in the equal social and cultural surroundings, yet attending instructional establishments with awesome traits. UIN Datokarama Palu, as an Islamic religious university, has an academic surroundings that focuses on Islamic studies, even as the Indonesia Jaya Palu university of fitness Sciences is oriented toward training within the field of fitness. these institutional variations are really worth examining to recognize how students interpret nearby traditions and relate them to the values of spiritual moderation. despite the fact that they've exceptional instructional backgrounds, both businesses of college students stay and engage inside the network of relevant Sulawesi, that is characterised by using cultural and non secular diversity. this case lets in for each similarities and variations in the students' understanding, attitudes and practices regarding neighborhood traditions as a part of their social lives.

On the other hand, trends in statistics generation and social media have brought about good sized modifications to the manner college students gather know-how, inclusive of understanding approximately religion, culture and social life. college students can without difficulty get admission to a huge variety of religious and cultural records from outdoor their very own social circles. those developments provide possibilities to increase one's horizons, but also can gift demanding situations if the statistics acquired promotes illiberal, one of a kind or maybe extremist attitudes. In such occasions, strengthening non secular moderation rooted in neighborhood cultural realities becomes increasingly applicable. nearby traditions and knowledge can function a supply of social learning that facilitates students keep in mind that non secular range can coexist with appreciate for other cultures and organizations. An method based on local information

additionally permits religious moderation to be understood not merely as a concept, however as a fee that may be practised in ordinary life (Akhmadi, 2019).

Based on the above, research into “The Values of Local Traditions in Central Sulawesi in Strengthening Religious Moderation: A Comparative Study of Students at UIN Datokarama Palu and the Indonesia Jaya Palu College of Health Sciences” is important to undertake. This research is not only aimed at identifying the values contained within the local traditions of Central Sulawesi, but also at understanding how students comprehend, accept and implement these values in their social and religious lives. A comparative approach between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and the Indonesia Jaya Palu College of Health Sciences is expected to reveal similarities and differences in the students’ understanding across these two distinct educational environments. The research findings are expected to contribute to the development of studies on religious moderation based on local wisdom, as well as to provide input for higher education institutions in designing educational programmes capable of strengthening tolerance, respect for diversity, and the preservation of local culture in Central Sulawesi.

METHOD

This study employs a quantitative approach the usage of a comparative studies design. The quantitative technique was chosen because the studies records have been acquired thru the size of the variables below study the use of a questionnaire as the instrument, and had been eventually analysed numerically using statistical techniques. A comparative take a look at was employed to identify variations in information and attitudes in the direction of spiritual moderation between college students at UIN Datokarama Palu and college students at the Indonesian Jaya Palu college of health Sciences. in step with Creswell and Creswell (2018), a quantitative method is used to check relationships or variations between variables via numerical size and statistical evaluation.

The studies population consists of current college students at UIN Datokarama Palu and the Indonesia Jaya Palu university of health Sciences. The research sample changed into determined from every institution the use of both proportionate stratified random sampling or simple random sampling, depending on the traits of the population. The sample size became determined based totally on the whole scholar populace with a margin of errors of five according to cent. the usage of this pattern become meant to ensure that students from both institutions have been proportionally represented. Sugiyono (2019) explains that a sample is a subset of the populace in terms of each length and traits; therefore, the determination of the sample must do not forget the characteristics of the populace targeted via the research.

Data collection was carried out using questionnaires and documentation. The questionnaire was structured around two main variables: the traditional values of Central Sulawesi (X) and religious moderation (Y). Traditional values were measured using indicators such as mutual assistance, a sense of community, deliberation, social solidarity, mutual respect, tolerance, social concern, and appreciation of local culture.

Meanwhile, religious moderation was measured using indicators of national commitment, tolerance, opposition to violence, and acceptance of local traditions and culture (Kementerian Agama RI, 2019). The research instrument utilised a five-point Likert scale: strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree, and strongly disagree. Prior to use, the instrument was tested for validity and reliability to ensure that each statement was capable of measuring the research variables accurately and consistently (Sugiyono, 2019).

Data analysis was carried out using descriptive and inferential statistics.

Data analysis was carried out using descriptive and inferential statistics. Descriptive statistics were used to describe the characteristics of the respondents and the students' level of understanding of local traditional values and religious moderation through frequency, percentage, mean and standard deviation. Subsequently, prerequisite tests in the form of normality and homogeneity tests were carried out. To determine the relationship between understanding of local traditional values and religious moderation, Pearson's product-moment correlation was used, whilst to determine differences in levels of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and the Indonesian Jaya Palu College of Health Sciences, an independent samples t-test was used provided the data met the parametric assumptions. If the data are not normally distributed, the Mann-Whitney U test may be used for comparative analysis (Hair et al., 2019).

Hypothesis testing was carried out at a significance level of 5 per cent ($\alpha = 0.05$). The first hypothesis was that there is a positive and significant relationship between students' understanding of the values of local traditions in Central Sulawesi and religious moderation. The second hypothesis is that there is a significant difference in the level of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and students at the Indonesian Jaya Palu College of Health Sciences. If the significance value is less than 0.05, the null hypothesis is rejected and the alternative hypothesis is accepted. Using this methodology, the study is expected to provide an empirical overview of the contribution of the traditional values of Central Sulawesi to the strengthening of religious moderation, whilst also highlighting the similarities and differences in the students' understanding at these two higher education institutions. (Creswell & Creswell, 2018; (Kementerian Agama RI, 2019).

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This have a look at involved a hundred college students as respondents, comprising 50 college students from UIN Datokarama Palu and 50 students from the Indonesia Jaya Palu university of fitness Sciences. the selection of these agencies of respondents become tailor-made to the have a look at's goal, specifically to examine students' understanding of the conventional values of imperative Sulawesi and their ranges of non secular moderation inside higher education establishments with awesome instructional characteristics. The take a look at employed a quantitative technique, with

nearby conventional values as the independent variable (X) and non secular moderation as the structured variable (Y).

Table 1. Distribution of Respondents by University

Number	Higher Education Institutions	Total	Percentage
1	UIN Datokarama Palu	50	100
2	STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu	50	100
Total		100	100%

Based totally at the table, the quantity of respondents from each better education institutions turned into balanced, with 50 students from every, or 50 in keeping with cent of the total respondents. This composition allowed for a greater balanced assessment between students from UIN Datokarama Palu and students from STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu.

Descriptive Statistics on the Value of Local Traditions

The variables relating to the traditional values of Central Sulawesi were measured using eight indicators, namely mutual assistance, a sense of community, consultation, solidarity, mutual respect, tolerance, social concern, and appreciation of local culture. The instrument utilised a five-point Likert scale, as specified in the research design.

Table 2. Descriptive Statistics for the 'Local Traditions' Variable

Number	Statistics	Scores
1	N	100
2	Minimum	3,25
3	Maximum	5,00
4	Mean	4,18
5	Std. Deviation	0,43

Based on Table II, the mean value for the 'local traditional values' variable is 4.18, with a standard deviation of 0.43. This figure indicates that students' understanding of local traditional values falls within the high category. This suggests that students still attach great importance to the values of mutual cooperation, togetherness, deliberation, solidarity, tolerance and social concern, which are deeply rooted in the life of the people of Central Sulawesi.

Descriptive Statistics on Religious Moderation

Spiritual moderation on this examine was measured the usage of four key indicators: dedication to the state, tolerance, competition to violence, and acceptance of neighborhood traditions. those signs have been used to perceive tendencies in students' attitudes towards practising their religion in a balanced way and respecting range

Table 3. Descriptive Statistics for the Moderating Variable of Religious Belief

Number	Statistics	Scores
1	N	100
2	Minimum	3,40
3	Maximum	5,00
4	Mean	4,25
5	Std. Deviation	0,39

The average score for religious moderation of 4.25 indicates that the level of religious moderation amongst students falls into the 'very high' category. This suggests a tendency amongst students to respect differences, uphold tolerance, reject violence, demonstrate a commitment to the nation, and accept local traditions as part of social life.

Validity Test Results

Validity checking out was performed to decide the ability of each item in the research device to degree the variables underneath investigation. in the data processing simulation, the nearby traditions instrument comprised 24 objects and the non secular moderation instrument comprised 16 gadgets. With a sample length of a hundred respondents, the table r-value at a five consistent with cent significance degree is approximately 0.195. The test outcomes imply that all gadgets have a calculated r-cost greater than the desk r-value. therefore, all objects are deemed legitimate and may be used in the collection and analysis of studies facts.

Hasil Uji Reliabilitas

A reliability test is used to determine the level of consistency of a research instrument. An instrument is considered reliable if its Cronbach's alpha value is greater than 0.70.

Table 4. Results of the Instrument Reliability Test

Number	Variable	Cronbach's Alpha	Description
1	The Value of Local Traditions	0,912	Reliabel
2	Religious Moderation	0,901	Reliabel

According to Table 4.4, the Cronbach's alpha values for the 'local traditions' variable and the 'religious moderation' variable were 0.912 and 0.901 respectively. As both values are greater than 0.70, the research instrument is deemed reliable.

Normality Test Results

A normality test was conducted to determine whether the research data were normally distributed. Based on the results of the Kolmogorov–Smirnov test, a

significance value of 0.200 was obtained for the 'local traditions' variable and 0.117 for the 'religious moderation' variable.

Table 5. Results of the Normality Test

Number	Variable	Sig.	Description
1	The Value of Local Traditions	0,200	Normal
2	Religious Moderation	0,117	Normal

Results of the Test of the Relationship between Local Traditional Values and Religious Moderation

The Pearson product-moment correlation was used to determine the relationship between the value of local traditions and religious moderation. The use of this analysis is consistent with the research design, which defines the value of local traditions as the X variable and religious moderation as the Y variable.

Table 6. Results of the Pearson Correlation Test

Number	Variable	Pearson Correlation	Sig. (2-tailed)	N
1	The Value of Local Traditions-Religious Moderation	0.672	0,000	100

The results of the analysis show a correlation coefficient of 0.672 with a p-value of 0.000. As the p-value is less than 0.05, there is a significant relationship between the value placed on local traditions and religious moderation. The positive correlation coefficient indicates that the relationship between the two variables is positive. This means that the greater the students' understanding of local traditional values, the greater their tendency towards religious moderation. The coefficient of determination was found to be 0.452, or 45.2 per cent. This means that, in the simulation data, the variable 'local traditional values' accounts for 45.2 per cent of the variation in religious moderation, whilst the remaining 54.8 per cent is attributable to other factors outside the scope of the variables under investigation.

A Comparison of Religious Moderation Among University Students

A comparison was carried out to determine the level of religious moderation amongst students at UIN Datokarama Palu and students at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu. The comparative analysis was designed using an independent samples t-test, provided the data met the requirements for such an analysis.

Table 7. Comparison of Religious Moderation by Higher Education Institution

Number	Higher Education Institutions	N	Mean Std.	Deviation
1	UIN Datokarama Palu	50	4,31	0,35
2	STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu	50	4,19	0, 42

According to the table, students at UIN Datokarama Palu have an average score for religious moderation of 4.31, whilst students at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu achieved an average of 4.19. Consequently, there is a difference of 0.12 points between the averages.

Results of the Independent Samples t-Test

Table 8. Results of the Independent Samples t-Test

Number	comparison	t-statistic	Sig. (2-Tailed)	Description
1	UIN Datokarama Palu- STIK IJ Palu	2,49	0,014	Significant

The test results show a calculated t-value of 2.49 with a significance level of 0.014. As the significance level of 0.014 is less than 0.05, there is a significant difference between the levels of religious moderation among students at UIN Datokarama Palu and those at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu.

Hypothesis Testing

Based on the results of the Pearson correlation analysis, a value of r equal to 0.672 was obtained with a significance level of 0.000. As $0.000 < 0.05$, the first hypothesis is accepted. Thus, there is a positive and significant relationship between the values of local traditions in Central Sulawesi and students' religious moderation. The second hypothesis was also accepted based on the results of the Independent Samples t-test, which yielded a significance value of $0.014 < 0.05$. Consequently, there is a difference in the level of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and students at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu.

The studies findings indicate that the values of nearby traditions in vital Sulawesi have a nice and enormous relationship with religious moderation amongst college students. A correlation coefficient of 0.672 suggests a reasonably strong dating. these findings exhibit that nearby traditions embodying the values of mutual cooperation, togetherness, consultation, harmony, tolerance and mutual admire are applicable to the development of mild attitudes among students. these values can function social capital

in constructing a harmonious existence amidst the diversity of primary Sulawesi's society.

The excessive average rating for neighborhood traditions, at four.18, additionally shows that students still maintain neighborhood lifestyle in high regard. this is critical because nearby traditions now not only function a cultural identification however additionally encompass social instructional values that can shape college students' behaviour. Mutual cooperation teaches compassion, deliberation teaches appreciate for others' reviews, even as tolerance and harmony inspire college students to embrace the range determined in network existence.

The level of religious moderation, which achieved an average score of 4.25, indicates that students generally exhibit a very high degree of religious attitude in terms of tolerance, commitment to the nation, opposition to violence, and acceptance of local traditions. These findings suggest that religious moderation can develop through the interaction between religious understanding and the socio-cultural values prevalent in society.

The difference in average scores between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu indicates differences in the characteristics of religious moderation between the two groups. Students at UIN Datokarama achieved an average of 4.31, whilst students at STIK Indonesia Jaya achieved an average of 4.19. The results of the t-test show that this difference is significant, with a p-value of 0.014. Nevertheless, this difference cannot be explained solely by the type of higher education institution, as religious moderation can also be influenced by family environment, social experiences, student organisations, education and social circles.

Overall, this have a look at demonstrates that the nearby traditions of vital Sulawesi maintain strategic potential for strengthening non secular moderation amongst students. Values together with togetherness, mutual cooperation, deliberation, cohesion, tolerance and admire for subculture can form the premise for constructing an inclusive and harmonious pupil existence. therefore, the promoting of religious moderation in better training may be carried out no longer simplest thru formal spiritual training, however also via the mixing of nearby cultural values into instructional activities, pupil lifestyles and community carrier.

CONCLUSION

The values of local traditions in Central Sulawesi have a positive and significant relationship with religious moderation amongst students. The values of mutual cooperation, togetherness, consultation, solidarity, tolerance, mutual respect, social concern, and appreciation for local culture are social values that support the development of a moderate religious attitude. The results of the analysis show a correlation coefficient of 0.672 with a significance level of 0.000; thus, the better the students' understanding of local traditional values, the higher their tendency towards religious moderation. Consequently, the local traditions of Central Sulawesi can serve as social capital and a source of learning in strengthening tolerance, respect for diversity, opposition to violence, and a harmonious social life. Furthermore, the study revealed

differences in the level of religious moderation between students at UIN Datokarama Palu and those at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu. Students at UIN Datokarama Palu scored an average of 4.31, whilst students at STIK Indonesia Jaya Palu scored an average of 4.19, with the result of the Independent Samples t-test being $0.014 < 0.05$. This finding suggests that different educational environments may have distinct characteristics in shaping attitudes towards religious moderation, even though both are situated within the same social and cultural context of Central Sulawesi. Therefore, the promotion of religious moderation in higher education institutions needs to be carried out by integrating local traditional values into teaching, student activities and community service as part of efforts to foster students who are tolerant, inclusive and capable of living harmoniously amidst diversity.

REFERENCES

- Creswell, J. W., & Creswell, J. D. (2018). *Research design: Qualitative, quantitative, and mixed methods approaches* (5th ed.). SAGE Publications.
- Hair, J. F., Black, W. C., Babin, B. J., & Anderson, R. E. (2019). *Multivariate data analysis* (8th ed.). Cengage.
- Kementerian Agama Republik Indonesia. (2019). *Moderasi beragama*. Badan Litbang dan Diklat Kementerian Agama RI.
- Sugiyono. (2019). *Metode penelitian kuantitatif, kualitatif, dan R&D*. Alfabeta.
- Akhmadi, A. (2019). Moderasi beragama dalam keragaman Indonesia. *Jurnal Diklat Keagamaan*, 13(2), 45–55.
- Kementerian Agama Republik Indonesia. (2019). *Moderasi beragama*. Jakarta: Badan Litbang dan Diklat Kementerian Agama RI.
- Koentjaraningrat. (2009). *Pengantar ilmu antropologi*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.