

HERITAGE OF GEDE PANGRANGO MOUNTAIN THE POTENSIAL ECONOMICAL ASPECT IN CIPANAS CIANJUR JAWA BARAT

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Abstract

Gede volcano is also known as Gedeh, Ageung or Agung, The Gede Pangrango complex dominates the cities of Cianjur, Sukabumi and Bogor lying below to the east, south, and NW respectively.

The 15,196 ha, Mt. Gede Pangrango National Park is a popular weekend destination for the city population nearby and famous for its many scenic river, waterfalls, lakes, warm springs, as well a unique mountain fauna and flora ranging from rainforest, elfin woodland to subalpine grassland.

Geologically, Pangrango volcano was built over the NE rim of an older 3x 5 km caldera, and is now considered extinct.

Younger Gede volcano has erupted many andesitic lava flow on its flank including historical ones.

It has been noted that the city of Cianjur lies on the deposits originating from Gede, showing that the volcano underwent phases of massive flank failure.

The biggest contributor to Cianjur's GDP is from the agriculture sector amounting to 41,30 percent. While trade, hotel, restaurant and services and tourism.

Cianjur Regency's transportation system consists of road transport, land transportation infrastructure supported by the network of national, provincial and regency levels. Overall, the existing transportation infrastructure has reached almost all parts of Cianjur Regency. Most areas of Cianjur Regency are flowed by rivers. The existence of the rivers are supporting the residence needs for water supply. Aside from these rivers, the hydrological situation in Cianjur Regency is also determined by the presence of swamps, lakes, dams, reservoirs, springs and boreholes.

Land transportation infrastructure supported by the network of national, provincial and regency levels.

Agrotourism is the potential economical aspect in Cipanas Cianjur, West Java. This agrotourism has the potentials of nature, tourism, conservation and economic potential.

Keywords : heritage, mountain, agrotourism.

Situated in the province of West Java in the south of Jakarta, the Cibodas Biosphere Reserve is an example of an ecosystem in the humid tropics under strong human pressure.

The Gunung Gede-Pangrango National park constitutes the core area of the biosphere reserve and encompasses twin volcanoes and mountainous rain-forests, including many species endemic to Java.

The buffer zone comprises production forests, tea plantations and horticulture fields. The majority of the transition area is covered by rice irrigation fields and human settlements.

Designation

date: 1977

Administrative authorities: Gunung Gede Pangrango National Park, Coordination of Region Development Agency, Research Center for Biology-Indonesian Institute of

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Science (LIPI), Indonesian MAB Programme National Committee, Local Government of Bogor, Sukabumi and Cianjur, Private sector, NGO's (CI, Kehati Foundation, Telapak Foundation, WCS), Bogor Agricultural University, University of Indonesia.

Surface	area: 114,779	ha
Core	area(s): 21,975	ha
Buffer	area(s): 12,700	ha
Transition	area(s): 80,104	ha

Location

Latitude: 6°42'S	-	6°52'S
Longitude: 106°49'E	-	107°04'E
Midpoint: 06°47'00"S - 106°56'30"E		

The core area of this Biosphere Reserve consists of twin volcanoes: Mt. Gede (2,958m) and Mt. Pangrango (3,109m). A high saddle known as Kandang Badak (2,400 masl) connects the two summits. The mountains slopes are very steep and are cut into by rapidly flowing streams, which carve deep valleys and long ridges. Generally, the area within the core area is well drained, but the few naturally occurring swamps Rawa Goyonggong, Rawa Denok, and Situgunung enrich the variety of habits.

Based on elevation and composition of forest stratification, the existing vegetation is characterized by three types of ecosystems: sub-montane (<1.500 m asl), montane (1.500 — 2.400 m asl), and sub-alpine (<2.400 m asl).

Mt. Gede and Mt. Pangrango, have long played a significant role in conservation and biological and ecological research, in particular botanical studies. In geological terms, both form part of recent mountain systems with Mt. Gede listed as an active volcano. The processes that led to the formation of these mountains began 3 million years ago and are still ongoing. This area also functions as an important hydrological catchment, providing water to approximately 20 million people. It is considered as one of the wettest parts of Java with rainfall ranging between 3,000 mm and 4,200 mm per year.

More than 1,000 species of flora from 57 families can be found in the National Park. The wild fauna include 251 bird species, accounting for more than 50% of bird species in Java Island. The park is also home to; 110 mammal species, including the rare Javan Gibbon (*Hylobates Moloch*); more than 300 species of insects and; around 75 species of reptiles. One bird species, the Javan hawk-eagle (*Spizaetus bartelsi*), was declared a national rare fauna symbol by Presidential Decree.

Around 454,325 people inhabit 66 villages located around the core area. The majority are Sundanese. Most are dependent on resources from the core area for their livelihoods and some live below the poverty line. About 70% work as farmers, but only a minority own their own land. Every year 70,000 tourists (the majority of which are Indonesian) visit the Biosphere Reserve.

The two mountains are renowned for their grandeur and isolation and are rich in local history and legends, such as the myths of 'Eyang Suryakencana' and 'Prabu Siliwangi'.

Several small, remote caves and stones situated the park have been identified as sites of ancient religious significance.

Cibodas Biosphere Reserve is also renowned for ecotourism development. The numerous attractions include waterfalls, environmental education, camping, bird watching and local culture. However, the most frequent activity is mountain hiking to the summits of the Gede and Pangrango mountains.