

## Multiethnic Settlement Segregation (A Case Study: Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City)

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### Abstract

*This research aims to reveal the segregation pattern of multiethnic settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City. The research method used in this study is a case study by means of in-depth interviews, observations, and documents. The results showed that the settlement pattern in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut Palembang City formed a colonization pattern or clustered at the front of the kampung due to the presence of there is a strong kinship base among people of Palembang descent who come from the same kinship lineage, such as the Palembang native ethnic, the Palembang Chinese ethnic and the Cirebonese Palembang ethnic. Meanwhile, at the back of kampung, the settlement pattern forms a spreading pattern and is more intended for immigrants ethnic who come from areas outside the Palembang City due to socioeconomic factors. The segregation of the settlements is a reflection of each ethnic groups in a settlement area which is supported by differences in economic, social, cultural, ethnic, and racial conditions. This separation is very visible in the position of the distribution of settlements from ethnic groups that form colonies on the front and back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. The existence of segregation of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut can be concluded that the settlement patterns that are formed reflect the inequalities that occur within an area, especially in the dominant groups in this case are the people of Palembang descent.*

### Keywords

multiethnic; settlement; segregation, Palembang



## I. Introduction

Indonesia is a country that has the motto *Bhineka Tunggal Ika* in dealing with differences and as a pride that it has to remain united in defending differences (Lestari, 2015; Putra, 2014; Shafa, 2016; Wijaksono, 2017; Butler, 2016). The existence of diversity indirectly makes Indonesia a unique country and has diverse variations and influences each other both physically and non-physically in the life of its people. One example of this diversity can be seen in the phenomenon of multiethnic settlements in Indonesia which can be identified based on human groups formed on the basis of lineage or background in religion or belief, basic values of life, habits, customs, norms, language, history, geographical conditions, and kinship (Maguire et al., 2002). Indonesia is a big country with more than 18,000 islands. It has at least 726 regional languages, making it the World's second most diverse, after Papua New Guinea. To choose one national and official language is a big problem for Indonesia because of the diversity of the regional languages. Given the diversity of cultures and vernaculars of our country, it was difficult to find what Indonesians had in common. That common identity would eventually be found by developing standardizing language to unify the islands. (Ridwan, M. 2018).

A multiethnic settlement is a settlement that is formed due to the population growth factor in an area or due to migration factors, so that a plural settlement can be formed with cultural diversity influenced by ethnicity. In addition, the existence of a clear common thread between events that have occurred in the past and the present makes these people settle in colonies or gather according to their own groups. Each of the existing ethnic groups has a strategy in carrying out good and harmonious relationships with one another, so that the order of life in multiethnic settlements can form a settlement conception that can show existence among the surrounding environment.

Basically, studies related to multiethnic settlements have varied focuses, including: ethnic identity through language as a marker of ethnic and religious identity (Muslim and Brown, 2016), multiethnic settlement arrangements (Rukayah et al., 2018), ethnic identity and wisdom that changing local communities, active in political activities, and exclusive social life (Faraidiany, 2016), the survival of ethnic communities through Islamic values (Agustian, 2017), the influence of ethnic interactions on settlement patterns (Sikwan, 2017), the patterns of multiethnic settlements (Agustian et al., 2021), characteristics of multiethnic settlements on the riverbank (Agustian et al., 2020), spatial layout of settlements based on tradition (Perdana, 2016), spatial characteristics of ethnic communities (Egam and Mishima, 2014), tourism ethnic groups (Rudenko et al., 2016), and the concept of multiethnic settlements (Agustian, 2020). Based on these studies, it can be concluded that phenomena related to multiethnic settlements can be seen from various focuses and different perspectives. On that basis, this research takes a gap and focuses on research related to the segregation of multiethnic settlements.

One of the phenomena of multiethnic settlement segregation is the settlement of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City. The settlement of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City is a multiethnic settlement consisting of native Palembang ethnic, Cirebonese Palembang ethnic, Palembang ethnic Chinese, and immigrants ethnic from areas outside the Palembang City. In addition, the Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut settlement in Palembang City is an old area that is densely populated and still shows its strong traditional character, for example there are traditional houses such as Rumah Limas or Rumah Panggung for the native Palembang ethnic group, the Cirebon ethnic group, and the Palembang ethnic group. Palembang Chinese and Warehouse Houses for ethnic immigrants from outside the Palembang City. On the other hand, the toponym of the kampung (the name of the alley) contained in the settlement represents the distribution of the existing ethnic groups.

The phenomenon of multiethnic settlements at Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City has shown differences in culture, regional characteristics, ethnic composition, and life values. On that basis, it can indirectly form various symptoms of spatial expression, one of which is the occurrence of separation of locations in each ethnic group in the settlement (segregation dimension). Ethnic elements are the main attraction in creating unique and interesting patterns in settlements. Thus, this study reveals the segregation pattern of multiethnic settlements, especially in the case study of the research case study of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City.

## **II. Research Methods**

One of the phenomena related to multiethnic settlements in Palembang City is Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut is located at the coordinates of 473136.1526; 9668286.8725 (UTM) which is located in the 48 S zone. Geographical conditions of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut are located at an altitude of 0-5 meters above sea level and have low soil conditions or swamps, but currently many locations have been filled to build houses and

other buildings. The area has a low topography with a lot of rainfall of 2135 mm/year, the least rainfall occurs in July with an average of 104 mm and the most rainfall occurs in December with an average of 369 mm. On the other hand, the air temperature in the area has an average of 27.30 C. Based on the orbit (distance from the center of government), the area is located at a distance of 10 meters from the district government center, the distance from the city government center as far as 3.4 kilometers and the distance from the administrative center of the capital city is 5 kilometers away.

The research method used in this research is the case study method. The choice of case study method in this research is because the cases raised in this study are unique cases, namely those related to multiethnic settlements which are determined based on the ethnic composition contained in the settlements, uniqueness, regional characteristics, and variations in settlement locations. On the other hand, this research emphasizes the examination of the past and contemporary (in the present) related to real life. In addition, the case study research method is also a method that aims to collect naturalistic facts (Yin, 2014). The case study research method is flexible and does not have standardization or formulation in conducting research, but has a research focus on a particular unit, either individuals, community organizations or groups (Yin, 2014).

The data collection technique used in this study refers to several sources of evidence that can be used as a focus for case study data collection in the case study research method, including: interviews (in-depth interviews), observations, and documents. In addition to these sources, there are several principles that need to be considered in collecting case study data. This includes the use of: (1) multiple sources of evidence, i.e. evidence from two or more sources, but united by the same set of facts or findings, (2) basic data, which is a collection of formal evidence that differs from the final report of the case study concerned, and (3) a set of evidence, namely an explicit relationship between the questions asked, the data collected, and the conclusions drawn. After the data is collected, the next step is data analysis. The analysis of evidence (data) in the case study method in this study consisted of pattern matching, (2) making explanations (explanations), and (3) cross-case synthesis. On the other hand, this study also uses a spatial approach as the basis for research analysis, especially to analyze the spatial aspects used.

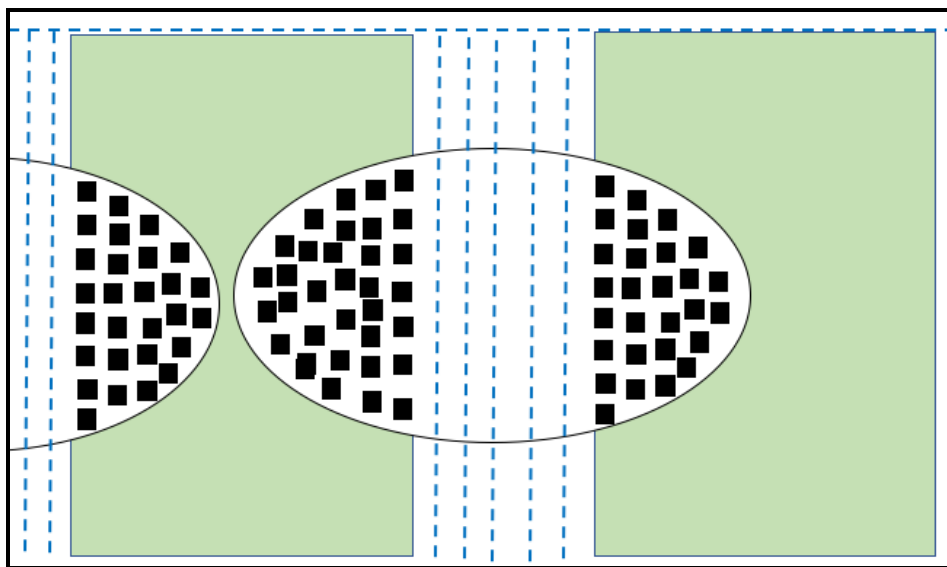


*Figure 1. Research administration map of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City*

### III. Results and Discussion

Based on its history, in 1822 after the Dutch determined the name of the kampung to be Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, the condition of the land in the village was dominated by cocoa plantations, while the settlement area was only located in the front of the kampung which was only inhabited by the native Palembang ethnic and the Chinese Palembang ethnic. At that time, the settlements had a right-left concept that was separated and bounded by a river, namely a tributary of the Musi River which stretched within the area of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut.

Initially, the land use that was formed in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut consisted of several components, namely: an agricultural area in the form of cocoa plantations, a residential area inhabited only by the indigenous people of Palembang and the ethnic Chinese of Palembang, as well as a stretch of river that is part of the community. in the Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut area.



*Figure 2. The illustration of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in 1822*

In 1961, the development of settlements had begun to be seen significantly when compared to before, although agricultural areas still dominated in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. Migrants from outside the Palembang City have started to arrive and build houses at the back of the kampung which is very close to the Musi River, although there are not so many of them. Entering 1962, the local community had begun to build access roads in the form of wooden roads or rafts, so that over time the composition of the settlement area had begun to fill the space in the front and back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut.

Based on Figure 5.2, it can be seen that in 1822 the settlement pattern formed in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut was to have formed a colonization settlement pattern or clustered (colonization settlement) on the outskirts of tributaries flowing inside the settlement. The settlement pattern was formed because the population was still in small numbers, so they formed a colony or gathered on the left and right sides of the tributaries of the Musi River which are located on the front of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. At that time, settlement conditions were not evenly distributed because the available land was still dominated by forest areas in the form of cocoa plantations. Over time, settlements have developed quite significantly, causing settlements to not only focus and cluster on the front, but are spread evenly on the back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut because there are already many migrants ethnic from various regions living in the Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut.

Basically, to find out the settlement pattern of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, it can be known in two ways, namely, by observing satellite images/aerial photos and also by conducting direct field observations to clarify the results of observations through satellite images/aerial photos. Based on observations through on-screen satellite images/aerial photos, it can be said that the distribution of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut forms a colonization/clustered settlement pattern with the overall shape of the settlement pattern resembling a rectangle and linear with the direction of the river. Based on these observations, the appearance of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut is filled with dense buildings in each block and there is no land/land left as other land cover.

Based on the results of field observations, it can be clarified that on the front of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, the settlement pattern forms a colonization pattern or clusters due to the existence of a strong kinship base between people of Palembang descent who come from the same kinship lineage, such as native Palembang ethnic, Chinese Palembang ethnic and Palembang Cirebon ethnic. Thus, it indirectly causes the various ethnic groups to colonize or group in an orderly manner according to their descendants on the front of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. Furthermore, at the back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, the settlement pattern forms a spreading pattern and is more intended for migrants ethnic who come from areas outside the Palembang City. These migrants come from different areas and have no kinship with one another. Population growth in the back of the kampung is very fast and dense, causing settlements to spread from the previous population. The distribution of the population at the back of the kampung becomes clustered with increasing population expansion and occupying the existing land irregularly. Settlement patterns are formed because local community see the potential from a socio-economic perspective that can support their lives. The existence of the Musi River can be said to be a potential for the local community because it provides work space for the local community in the field of transportation and trade.



*Figure 3. Ethnic groupings map of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City*

Based on the existing phenomena, the settlement patterns in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut Palembang City can be grouped into two parts, namely at the front of the village and at the back of the village. The formation of these groupings indirectly indicates that there is an element of settlement segregation that occurs in people of Palembang descent, namely the native Palembang ethnic, the Palembang Chinese ethnic, and the Palembang Cirebon ethnic group who separated themselves or gathered in the front of the village, while ethnic immigrants from outside Palembang City just at the back of the village. The distribution of ethnic groups of Palembang descent can be seen on the front of each alley in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut as follows:

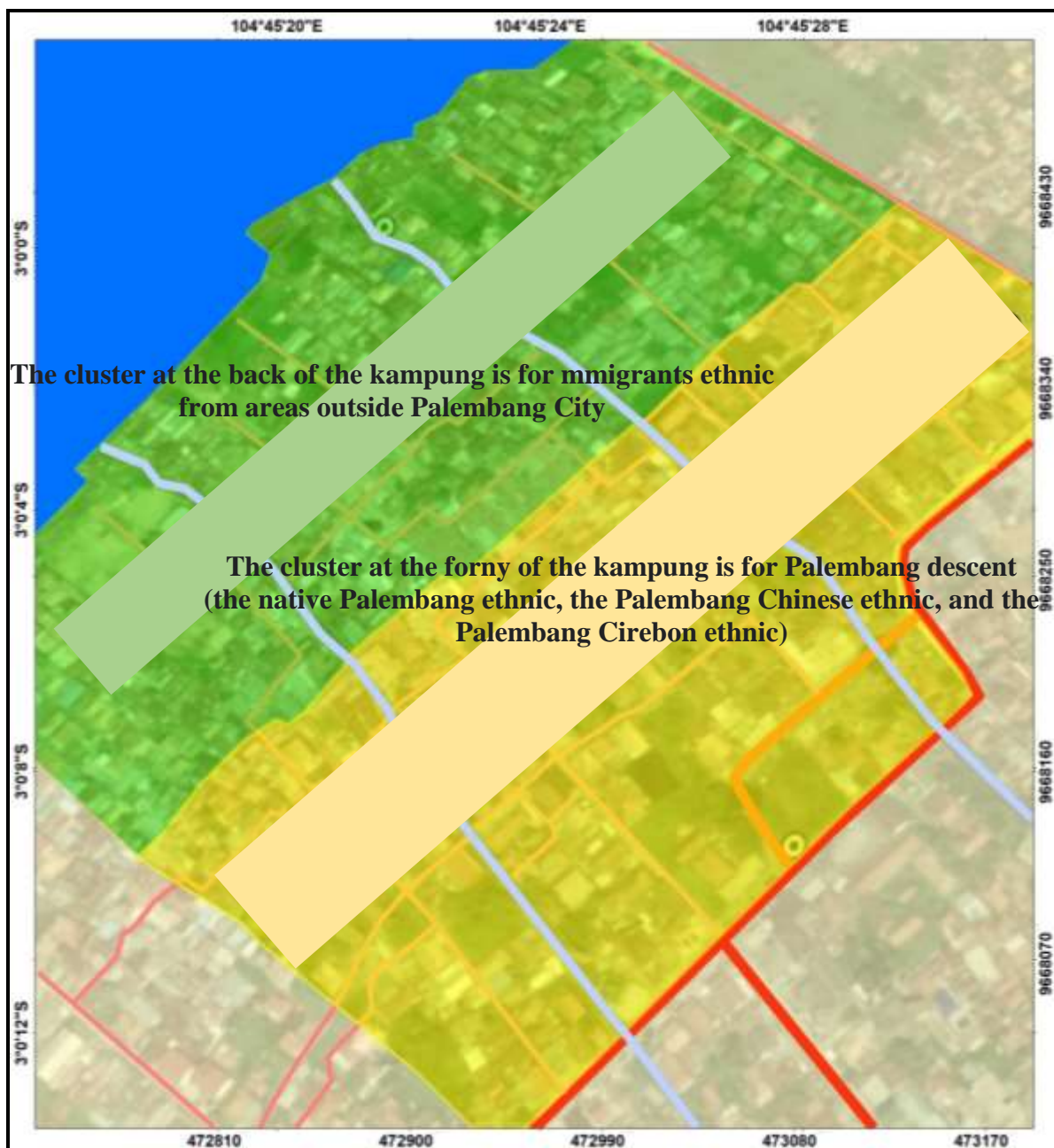
1. The indigenous ethnic people of Palembang are spread out in front of Lorong Jaya Laksana, Lorong Saudagar Yucing, and Lorong Hijriah.
2. The ethnic Chinese community of Palembang is spread out in front of the Yucing Merchant Hall.
3. The Palembang Cirebon ethnic community is spread out in front of the H. Akil Firm Lorong.

Meanwhile, ethnic immigrant communities from outside the city of Palembang are scattered at the back of all alleys and live in the area behind the village which is close to the Musi River as explained in the previous explanation.

Based on the explanation above, it can be said that the formation of two settlement patterns in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut indirectly indicates an element of segregation or segregation of settlements that occurs between people of Palembang descent, namely the native Palembang ethnic, the Palembang Chinese ethnic, and the Palembang Cirebon ethnic with migrants ethnic who come from areas outside the city of Palembang. The pattern of settlements formed in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut Palembang City indirectly forms a pattern of social space segregation, which based on a geographical perspective shows the uneven distribution or distribution of ethnic groups in the settlements of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut Palembang City. The existence of settlement segregation is a reflection of each of these ethnic groups in a settlement area which is supported by differences in economic, social, cultural, ethnic, and racial conditions. This separation is very visible in the position of the distribution of settlements from ethnic groups that form colonies on the front and back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. The existence of segregation of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut can be concluded that the settlement patterns that are formed reflect the inequalities that occur within an area, especially in the dominant groups in this case are people of Palembang descent.

The settlement pattern of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut that is formed represents the ethnic groups who live in the village. The element of ethnicity also has a very strong influence on the formation of settlement patterns such as strong historical factors, kinship relations, cultural differences, religion, and ethnic values of each individual/ethnic group living in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. The element of ethnicity also describes the development of settlement patterns formed in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. The development of the settlement pattern can be seen in 1822 starting with the formation of a settlement pattern of colonization/clustering at the front of the village by the descendants of Palembang, namely Palembang Chinese ethnic, Palembang native ethnic, and Palembang Cirebon ethnic. Initially, the settlement pattern of colonization/clustering only formed a small distribution on the left and right sides of the Musi River tributary in the village. However, due to the strong ethnicity of the descendants of Palembang, there was a wide expansion of settlements on the front of the village, so that settlements were spread densely and evenly, and formed a settlement pattern of colonization/gathering. Over time, the land allotment in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut was not only filled in the front of the village, but settlement expansion also occurred at the back of the village. However, the expansion of settlements at the back of the kampung

was caused by the large number of migrants ethnic from areas outside the Palembang City who decided to settle and spread the settlements in an irregular manner.



*Figure 4. Segregation map of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City*

## V. Conclusion

The settlement of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City is a multiethnic settlement consisting of native Palembang ethnic, Cirebonese Palembang ethnic, Palembang ethnic Chinese, and migrants ethnic from areas outside Palembang City. The pattern of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut in Palembang City can be grouped into two parts, namely at the front of the kampung and at the back of the kampung. At the front of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, the settlement pattern forms a pattern of colonization or clustering due to the existence of a strong kinship base between people of Palembang descent who come from the same kinship

lineage, such as the native Palembang ethnic, the Palembang Chinese ethnic and the Palembang Cirebon ethnic. Meanwhile, at the back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut, the settlement pattern forms a spreading pattern and is more intended for migrants ethnic who come from areas outside the Palembang City. In addition, the pattern of distribution was formed because local communities saw the potential from a socio-economic perspective that could support their lives. The existence of the Musi River can be said to be a potential for the local community because it provides work space for the local community in the field of transportation and trade. The formation of these groupings indirectly indicates that there is an element of settlement segregation that occurs in people of Palembang descent, namely the native Palembang ethnic, the Palembang Chinese ethnic, and the Palembang Cirebon ethnic group who separated themselves or gathered in the front of the kampung, while migrants ethnic from outside Palembang City just at the back of the kampung. The existence of settlement segregation is a reflection of each of these ethnic groups in a settlement area which is supported by differences in economic, social, cultural, ethnic, and racial conditions. This separation is very visible in the position of the distribution of settlements from ethnic groups that form colonies on the front and back of Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut. The existence of segregation of settlements in Kampung 3-4 Ulu Laut can be concluded that the settlement patterns that are formed reflect the inequalities that occur within an area, especially in the dominant groups in this case are people of Palembang descent.

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