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**FACTORS THAT BECOME A DARK TOURIST ATTRACTION  
IN THE AREA OF MOUNT MERAPI YOGYAKARTA****Kallistus Brian Sadhana**Master of Tourism Study Program  
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**Latar Belakang:** Pada hakikatnya, wisata kelim merupakan jenis wisata yang menyimpang karena secara konsep berbeda dengan konsep wisata pada umumnya. Konsep wisata pada dasarnya yaitu berlibur guna mencari suatu hiburan, namun konsep wisata kelim justru sebaliknya, para wisatawan yang berkunjung jarang menemukan kesan menyenangkan.

**Tujuan:** Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menjelaskan motivasi wisatawan mengunjungi wisata kelim di kawasan Gunung Merapi Yogyakarta serta mendeskripsikan faktor-faktor yang menjadi daya tarik wisata kelim di kawasan Gunung Merapi Yogyakarta.

**Metode:** Jenis penelitian menggunakan metode kualitatif. Sebuah metode penelitian yang dipakai untuk mempelajari keadaan objek alam, narasumber sebagai instrumen kunci, teknik pengumpulan datanya adalah dengan triangulasi, sifat analisis datanya induktif, dan hasil penelitian cenderung mengutamakan faedah bukan generalisasi. Teknik pengambilan data melalui observasi langsung di lokasi, wawancara tidak terstruktur, dan dokumentasi berupa referensi, kutipan, dan gambar atau foto. Teknik analisis data dengan mereduksi data, kemudian data disusun secara sistematis, setelah itu verifikasi agar data bisa divalidasi.

**Hasil:** Hasil penelitian menjelaskan bahwa wisatawan memiliki ketertarikan untuk mengunjungi wisata kelim di kawasan Gunung Merapi Yogyakarta dilandasi oleh empat motivasi, yakni; rasa keingintahuan, eksplorasi, refleksi diri, dan spiritual. Selanjutnya, ditemukan enam faktor yang menjadi daya tarik wisata kelim di kawasan Gunung Merapi Yogyakarta, yakni; historis, objek wisata baru, kondisi alamiah, petualangan, edukasi, dan mitos.

**Kesimpulan:** Hasil dari penelitian dan pembahasan yang sudah dipaparkan sebelumnya bisa disimpulkan bahwa, motivasi wisatawan mengunjungi wisata kelim di kawasan

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Gunung Merapi Yogyakarta yang pertama ialah rasa keingintahuan.

**Kata kunci:** faktor daya tarik, motivasi wisatawan, wisata kelam, kawasan gunung merapi yogyakarta

**Abstract (English)**

**Background:** *In essence, dark tourism is a type of tourism that diverges because it is conceptually different from the concept of tourism in general. The concept of tourism is a vacation to find entertainment, but the concept of dark tourism is just the opposite, tourists who visit rarely find a pleasant impression.*

**Purpose:** *This study aims to explain the motivation of tourists to visit dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta and describe the factors that become the attraction of dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta.*

**Methods:** *This type of research uses qualitative methods. A research method used to study the state of natural objects, the resource person as a key instrument, the data collection technique is by triangulation, the nature of data analysis is inductive, and research results tend to prioritize benefits, not generalizations. Data retrieval techniques through on-site observation, unstructured interviews, and documentation in the form of references, citations, and images or photos. Data analysis techniques are by reducing data, then the data is arranged systematically, after that verification so that the data can be validated.*

**Results:** *The results of the study explained that tourists have an interest in visiting dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta based on four motivations, namely; curiosity, exploration, self-reflection, and spirituality. Furthermore, six factors were found that became the dark tourist attraction in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta: historical, new attractions, natural conditions, adventure, education, and myths.*

**Conclusion:** *The results of the research and discussion that have been previously presented can be concluded that the first activity of tourists visiting dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta is a sense of curiosity.*

**Keywords:** *attractiveness factor, tourist motivation, dark tourism, mount Merapi area Yogyakarta*

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## INTRODUCTION

Yogyakarta has full advantages in the field of tourism. Besides being known as a student city, it is also known for its tourism potential which has various tourist attractions. Various types of tourism that are popular in Yogyakarta are natural tourism, historical tourism, cultural tourism, culinary tourism, and religious tourism. Of the various types of tourism, it also has many popular tourist attractions that can make local and foreign tourists interested in visiting. Almost every day it is always crowded with local and foreign tourists, as well as the number of tourist villages that have sprung up and continue to develop into one alternative tourist attraction favored by tourists. So with the many popular tourist attractions in Yogyakarta, it becomes a tourist attraction for tourists to come to do recreation, and nothing but look for entertainment and fun. A tourist attraction is everything in the location that provides beauty, and value in the form of a variety of natural luxuries or made by people that are alluring and have value to be met or seen, or noticed by tourists (Utama & SE, 2015).

On the other hand, in addition to the tourist attractions in Yogyakarta as mentioned above, there are tourist attractions that are different or unusual from other tourist attractions in general, namely the Mount Merapi area after the eruption. In 2006, Mount Merapi experienced an eruption and in 2010 there was a natural disaster of volcanic earthquakes from Mount Merapi. Most of the places around were exposed to hot clouds and cold lava which resulted in many settlements or residents' homes being destroyed and also costing many lives. However, after the incident passed, it grabbed the attention of many people. Not few people are also curious to visit to witness the places affected by natural disasters. Even today, places affected by natural disasters have become destinations for people to travel. If the places affected by the disaster become a tourist destination, then these tourist attractions can be said to be dark tourist destinations of *the dark camps of genocide* type (Komsary, 2017).

Related to the natural disaster event, the volcanic earthquake from Mount Merapi that occurred also had an impact on the tourism sector, especially tourism around the location. The negative impact on tourism around the Mount Merapi area after the eruption resulted in several tourist destinations around the location being destroyed and many could no longer operate. On the other hand, the positive impact on tourism around the Mount Merapi area after the eruption is that places affected by disasters can be managed and processed into new tourist destinations or special tourist destinations. Post-natural disaster areas can become new tourist destinations for the tourism industry (Suhartini & Arifiyanti, 2019).

A dark tour is a trip to a place where there is a tragedy or story about a tragic human death and the activity of strengthening the memory of events and victims at the location (Damanik, 2012). There, tourists tend not to be presented with pleasure, excitement, or joy, but on the contrary, they are presented with matters related to dark times, natural disasters, former wars, and tragedies of grief. Activities that are usually carried out by tourists in dark tourist destinations are pilgrimages, interpreting incidents that have occurred in the past and empathizing with victims due to tragedies that are in that location. Dark tourism can be said to have a close relationship with historical and educational tourism. Although tourists who visit dark tourist destinations get a little pleasant holiday experience, tourists get satisfaction such as obtaining historical and educational aspects in it. Tourists generally visit to find entertainment, not wanting to run observations or research. The concept of dark tourism is fundamentally contradictory or seems negative or strange (Muktaf, 2017). In general, individuals or groups of individuals carry out tourist activities aimed at recreation, seeking entertainment, fun, and relaxation to unwind, or leaving a burden for a moment from daily activities. Tourism as a trip from region to region is temporary, carried out individually or in groups aimed at finding happiness, harmony, or balance, with a scope in natural, social, cultural, and educational dimensions (Jamaluddin et al., 2021).

Dark tourism has a uniqueness about tourist attractions that are different and unusual compared to the tourist attractions owned by each other type of tourism in general. However, it is necessary to know that with the unusual attraction in dark tourism, this matter is the potential in itself to attract attention and be able to increase the interest of tourist visits. Several catastrophic incidents and dark tragedies that have occurred have resulted in people's curiosity about the impact caused.

Based on the existing background description, it is known that the concept of dark tourism is somewhat contrary to other tourism concepts in general. In addition, the tourist attraction in dark tourism is also different and unusual from the tourist attraction owned by every other type of tourism in general. There are even people or people who think that the concept of tourism is considered deviant. Although dark tourism can indeed be said to be a strange type of tourism compared to other types of tourism until now this type of tourism that is fairly strange has turned out to be able to attract or lure tourists to visit dark tourist destinations. Interestingly, dark tourist attractions in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta are always crowded with tourists, be they domestic or foreign. Therefore, this study was made aimed at explaining the motivation of tourists to visit the dark tourist destinations of the Mount Merapi Yogyakarta area, as well as describe the factors that are the dark tourist attractions in the Mount Merapi Yogyakarta area.

## RESEARCH METHODS

This research is included in the qualitative research category because this research uses primary and secondary data. The study used primary data and secondary data as data sources. Primary data were obtained directly from the results of observations and conducted interviews with informants or respondents by observing tourist motives and observing tourist attractions at the object of the study location. In addition to using primary data, the study also used secondary data in the form of documentation, support from the internet such as scientific articles or journals, and several reference books that have synchronous citations in their contents.

Among the key players in this thesis research is the Caretaker of Mount Merapi, the lava tour guide, and the SAR DIY Commander.

**Table**

No	Sources	Position	Capabilities
1.	Mas Bekel Anom Suraksosihono / Mas Asih	Caretaker of Mount Merapi	Knowing the history and significant knowledge about the Mount Merapi area. Conservationists of local wisdom on the slopes of Merapi are also guardians of traditional culture and art. Manager of Petilasan Mbah Maridjan.
2.	Miskam Nur Ihsan	Lava Tour Guide	One of the tourism actors is the manager of the Merapi lava tour.
3.	Drs. Brotoseno, M.Si	DIY SAR Commander	Understand the situation or conditions in the Mount Merapi area.

Source: Author's processed data (2021)

To obtain complete and clear data, if in this study using data collection techniques as follows observation, interviews, and documentation.

The data analysis technique in this study refers to the version according to (Miles et al., 2018) which states that data collection in qualitative research is through observation, interviews, citations, and document digests. Reviews in qualitative research are mostly words instead of numbers. Therefore, the collected data must be processed first and analyzed before it can be used. The proposed format of (Miles et al., 2018) generally uses an analysis version as follows data reduction, data presentation, and verification conclusions.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### Tourist Attractions of Mount Merapi Museum

Mount Merapi Museum is a tourist destination created in the Merapi area to provide answers about the impact of a disaster packaged in the form of interesting information is one of the factors that make MGM one of the dark tours in the area of Mount Merapi Yogyakarta. Tourist Attraction (DTW) is assembled in the form of sustainable conservation education vehicles along with developing knowledge of volcanic disasters, volcanic earthquakes, and other natural disasters.

The quality of a tourist attraction can increase the interest in visiting potential visitors or tourists. The quality in question is seen from aspects related to art or culture, facilities, and infrastructure, which are in the museum worth finding or not feasible. From the development of aspects and the implementation of marketing actions, it is hoped that it will be able to foster the desire of tourists to visit and is expected to affect the additional income of the region and provide opportunities for people to work in the museum.

### Opportunities and Challenges of My Remnant Mini Museum

#### *Attractions of the Mini Museum of Sisa Hartaku*

The name of this tourist attraction is commonly abbreviated as MMSH, a museum that stores objects or items left over from post-eruption relics. The building also includes the remains of post-eruption relics, but only leaves the wall. In addition to objects, there are also skeletal remains of farm animals that were burned due to being hit by hot clouds. For now, MMSH is quite crowded with tourists. Therefore, various facilities that can be used by tourists have been provided such as food stalls. So the tourists who visit can be better served while eating the food around the tour. The Mini Museum of Sisa Hartaku is stunning to be used as a destination to fill time and live a variety of activities. Even though it is only in the form of collapses or remnants of building debris, tourists are still enthusiastic about the uniqueness of MMSH.



Figure 4 Front View of the Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku  
Source: Personal Documentation



Gambar 5 Collection of the Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku  
Source: Personal Documentation



**Figure 6 Merapi Message for visitors**  
Source: Personal Documentation



**Bukti hours during the Merapi eruption incident**  
Source: Personal Documentation

Various activities that tourists can do when visiting this destination are looked through collections, self-reflection, and take photos or videos.

### **Opportunities and Challenges of Petilasan Mbah Maridjan**

In addition to the Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku, in the route of the Merapi *lava tour jeep* tour package, there is also one of the tourist attractions that has a dark tourism concept, namely, Petilasan Mbah Maridjan to commemorate and honor one of the Caretakers of Mount Merapi who became a victim of the ferocity of the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010 ago, in addition to increasing tourist visits on the Merapi *lava tour*.

This tourist attraction is located in the former complex where Mbah Maridjan lives which collapsed due to the eruption of Mount Merapi. Petilasan is now a new tourist attraction because it has a pavilion building as a sacred place of Mbah Maridjan. There is also a room filled with items destroyed by the eruption. The location of Petilasan Mbah Maridjan is located in the Merapi *lava tour* area, precisely in Kinahrejo Hamlet, Umbulharjo Village, Cangkringan District, Sleman Regency, Yogyakarta.



**Figure IV.8 Front View of Petilasan Mbah Maridjan**  
Source: Personal Documentation

### **Implementation of the Dark Tourism Concept in the Mount Merapi Area of Yogyakarta**

#### ***Social Aspects***

The social aspect has a crucial role to help the performance of the sustainable tourism sector. The social aspect not only identifies *stakeholders* but also organizes to obtain maximum benefits for each stakeholder. Stakeholders in the sustainable tourism sector overshadow anyone who influences and is influenced by the tourism sector and who is at the forefront of course are residents who are indigenous people who are around the tourist destination area.

The direction of the concept of dark tourism in principle departs from understanding and folklore based on a tragedy or disaster in the community. It is also in line with the principle of regional autonomy where tourism activities naturally always intersect and are always attached to the culture of the local community. In terms of this relationship, tourism is a tool for culture arising from the impact of a disaster. Therefore, cultural use cannot be avoided, but often the use of culture has a positive impact because it is achieved in the name of preservation (Nugroho Iwan, 2011).



In recent decades, the implementation of dark tours in the area of Mount Merapi is packaged and wrapped in the form of a *Jeep Lava Tour* tour package. In its development, it faces many shifts in trends in the form of modernization which causes many people to have an uncharacteristic thinking paradigm. Many updates occurred that had the effect of creating a new lifestyle conception that prioritized the material and physical. This certainly gives rise to a polemic of a dichotomy between traditional and modern life principles which boils down to an identity crisis.

This mass transformation is certainly triggered by advances in technology and information so that people can easily connect tourists with the destinations to be visited so that tourists have an interest in visiting tourist destinations with a dark tourist concept in the Mount Merapi area.

### ***Economic Aspects***

Economic benefits in tourist destinations are not only weighed through a market approach. Because the effort to improve the economy in the smallest scope or the local community, in general, is to calculate their role and culture in the role of conservation in the environment and whether with the presence of a tourist attraction that has been packaged in such a way as a tourist destination can or can improve the standard of living of the community and is evidenced by the increase or variety of new job opportunities that may not have existed before and able to unravel poverty, reduce inequalities between one community and another living around the tourist area.

In the era of the Covid-19 pandemic, the management of tourist destinations in the Mount Merapi area, including those with a dark tourism concept, has undergone several changes in response to the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic. Starting from new habits and also the ability of tourists to buy tour packages offered.

### ***Environmental Aspects***

Tourism is based on the awareness that humans and the natural environment are a unified living system, especially those related to the impact of natural disasters. Tourism is developed with the principle of a balance between taking benefits and the obligation to maintain nature. Thus, environmental sustainability can be guaranteed so that it can be benefited both now and future generations sustainably and equitably. The natural environment is limited and difficult to renew. Therefore, utilization should consider the limitations of natural resources. One of the principles that must be used is to control the desire to consume so that the fulfillment of consumption does not exceed the limitations of natural resources themselves.

Physical development is certainly inevitable in the development of the tourism industry. However, this can also be done while still balancing technical and socio-cultural aspects. The technical aspect is relatively fulfilled by the analysis of environmental effects (AMDAL) which has become an absolute provision in every development. However, horizontal aspects related to socio-culture must also be considered so that there is no friction with the local community. In addition to making determinations on land division, the carrying capacity of the territory also needs to be considered in detail. This is related for example to the availability of water and the ability of the environment/nature to accommodate tourists without damaging or disturbing the existence and sustainability of the environment in the region in the future. The carrying capacity of the environment is one of the reference indicators for sustainable tourism management and has a dark tourism concept.

Based on the results of an *interview* with one of the tour managers, he said that initially the implementation of restrictions on the number of tourist visits had been carried out in the early days of opening tourist areas. This restriction on the number of tourist visits was also carried out during the COVID-19 pandemic.

### The Role of Stakeholders in the Development of Dark Tourism as a Tourist Destination in the Mount Merapi Area of Yogyakarta

The tourism sector always needs cooperation between two or more parties and always needs other sectors. The tourism business is very difficult if it is cultivated with only one or two interested parties. Therefore, this synergy must be supported and maintained by government policies that are conducive to the sustainability of the tourism sector so that the climate does not cause conflicts in the future which are usually triggered by differences in viewpoints and end in miscommunication or misunderstandings. The government should be able to maintain this balance by implementing policies that are not harmful to one party, either entrepreneurs or tourism managers with the people in the area.

Efforts to involve local communities have complex challenges because of the different points of view of each party towards the presence of the tourism sector in their residences. However, if realized, it becomes an important instrument for the sustainability of sustainable management of tourist destinations. The roles of stakeholders in the Mount Merapi Area and the results of observations and direct interviews of researchers with resource persons are as follows;

#### Caretaker of Mount Merapi

Speaker I : Mas Bekel Anom Suraksosihono / Mas Asih

Position : Caretaker of Mount Merapi

Date & Time : April 11, 2022, 16.00 WIB

**Table IV. 2 Results of Interviews with Merapi Caretaker Speakers**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What makes tourists interested in visiting dark tours in the Mount Merapi area?	The emergence of several new tourist destinations after the tragedy of the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010, for example, such as; Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku, Museum Omahku Memoriku, Petilasan Mbah Maridjan, Tomb of Mbah Maridjan, Alien Stone, Kaliadem Bunker, and <i>Lava Tour</i> .
2.	What criticisms and suggestions do you want to convey about dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area?	First, for the government; The new tourist destinations formed after the eruption are still largely self-managed by residents and there is no cooperation with the government. Then, there has been no government action to help improve road access, especially in the Mount Merapi area. Therefore, if the government follows up on the improvement of access roads, tourists will be more comfortable and safer when visiting. In addition, evacuation routes will also be more accessible. Second, the managers; reiterate not to demonize each other's tourist destinations. The managers already have their location and should be managed as well as wisely, because it is income or income for themselves.

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

From the results of interviews with speakers, conclusions can be drawn in managing and developing a tourism concept, especially in dark tourism. Local Governments and Tourism Area Managers must synergize with each other and work for hand in hand to make tourist areas more stunning and have quality selling points. Then



automatically the interest of tourists to visit the area will increase. The increase in the number of tourists encourages the increasing welfare of residents and surrounding areas.

**Lava Tour Guide Merapi**

Speaker II : Miskam Nur Ihsan

Job Title : *Lava Tour Guide*

Date & Time : April 11, 2022, 17.00 WIB

**Table IV. 3 Results of Interviews with Tour Guide Speakers**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What makes tourists interested in visiting dark tours in the Mount Merapi area?	The emergence of several new tourist destinations after the tragedy of the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010, for example, such as; Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku, Museum Omahku Memoriku, Petilasan Mbah Maridjan, Tomb of Mbah Maridjan, Alien Stone, Kaliadem Bunker, and <i>Lava Tour</i> . The mystery of a Merapi Message Inscription is written in Javanese as if the essence of the message has a relevant relationship with the nature of Merapi.
2.	What motivates tourists to visit dark tours in the Mount Merapi area?	Tourists are curious about the condition of the place affected by the natural disaster of the volcanic earthquake or the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010. Tourists are curious about the dark history that exists in the Mount Merapi area after the eruption in 2010. Tourists want to know what impacts were caused by the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010. Tourists want to know more about the story and profile of Mbah Maridjan, the caretaker who died during the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010.
3.	What activities are in demand by tourists when visiting dark tours in the Mount Merapi area?	Pilgrimage to the tomb of Mbah Maridjan, the caretaker who died due to the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010. Driving around using a <i>jeep</i> car to the Mount Merapi area which was affected by the eruption in 2010. Witness firsthand archaeological sites such as historical relics or artifacts caused by the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010. Self-reflection.
4.	What is the difference/advantage/potential of dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area that is rarely owned by other tourist attractions in general?	The dark tourism potential in the Mount Merapi area that is most prominent in contrast to other tourist attractions, in general, is its uniqueness and peculiarity, which is a tourist concept that is contrary to other tourism concepts in general. The concept of dark tourism can be said to be an anti-mainstream tourism concept.

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

From the results of interviews with speakers, it can be concluded that in a Mount Merapi Area, there is a lot of potentials and high selling value in tourist attractions and historical and cultural relics, especially in dark tourism. In this case, the tourism site manager must optimize the existing potential, as well as carry out updates by synergizing with technological advances. So that later many tourists understand what dark and menja tourism are in one of the selected destinations.

**SAR Yogyakarta Special Region**

Speaker III : Drs. Brotseno, M.Si

Position : DIY SAR Commander

Date & Time : April 10, 2022, 7:30 PM

**Table IV. 4 Results of Interviews with DIY SAR Speakers**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What makes tourists interested in visiting dark tours in the Mount Merapi area?	The emergence of several new tourist destinations after the tragedy of the eruption of Mount Merapi in 2010, for example, such as; Mini Museum Sisa Hartaku, Museum Omahku Memoriku, Petilasan Mbah Maridjan, Tomb of Mbah Maridjan, Alien Stone, and <i>Lava Tour</i> .
2.	What criticisms and suggestions do you want to convey about dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area?	First, the government; Improve services and add facilities for volunteers who are around the site. Because so far volunteers such as the SAR team still lack the support and appreciation of the local government. Second, jeep managers on the lava tour; Hold coaching or training, especially for <i>Jeep</i> drivers in the lava tour area to be more professional in driving jeeps when carrying passengers or tourists, aiming to minimize accidents. Because so far jeep activities in the <i>lava tour</i> area are not uncommon to have accidents. Third, for the tourists; Since Mount Merapi is one of the most active volcanoes in Indonesia, tourists are urged to always be aware of the status of the mountain. In addition, please obey the rules or directions that exist when Mount Merapi is vulnerable.

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

From the results of interviews with speakers, conclusions can be drawn in managing and developing a tourism concept, especially in dark tourism. Local Government and the tourism site manager must synergize with each other and work hand in hand to make the tourist area more stunning and have a quality selling point. Plus you have to pay attention to the safety and comfort aspects for both the organizers and tourists, of course, the interest of tourists to visit the event will automatically increase. This is based on the sense of security and comfort that has been given by the management of the tour crew. The increase in the number of tourists encourages the increasing welfare of residents and surrounding areas.

**Mount Merapi Museum Tourists**

Nama : Reza  
 Age : 25 years old  
 Gender : Male  
 Occupation : Self-employed  
 Domicile : Yogyakarta  
 Date & Time : March 1, 3, 2022, 1 0.30 WIB

**Table IV. 5 Interview Results with Tourists of Mount Merapi Museum**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What motivates tourists to visit the Mount Merapi Museum?	Curious to know the contents of the museum
2.	What attractions are there in the Mount Merapi Museum?	Remains of objects affected by the Merapi eruption, Miniature of Mount Merapi, Documentary about Volcanoes and Mount Merapi

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

**Tourists of the Mini Museum of My Remains**

Nama : Princess  
 Age : 22 years old  
 Gender : Female  
 Occupation : Student  
 Domicile : Out of Town  
 Date & Time : May 1 5, 2022, 10. 00 PM

**Table IV. 6 Interviews with Tourists of the Mini Museum of My Remains**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What motivates tourists to visit the Sisa Hartaku Mini Museum?	Are curious to know the locations affected by the Merapi eruption, want to explore the locations affected by the Merapi eruption, want to research locations to add knowledge and insight
2.	What attractions are there in the Sisa Hartaku Mini Museum?	Relics of residents' homes along with objects belonging to residents exposed to hot clouds are preserved, Merapi Message Inscription

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

**Tourists Petilasan Mbah Maridjan**

Nama : Gofur  
 Age : 23 years old  
 Gender : Male  
 Occupation : Student  
 Domicile : Yogyakarta  
 Date & Time : May 1, 5, 2022, 1 1.30 WIB

**Table IV. 7 Interview Results with Petilasan Mbah Maridjan Tourists**

No.	Question	Answer
1.	What motivates tourists to visit Petilasan Mbah Maridjan?	Curious to know the condition of the caretaker's house exposed to hot clouds, want to research the condition of the caretaker's house exposed to hot clouds
2.	What attractions are there in Petilasan Mbah Maridjan?	Former caretaker's stopover site exposed to hot clouds preserved, Remains of caretaker's relics exposed to hot clouds preserved

Source: Author's processed data (2022)

## CONCLUSION

### A. Conclusion

The results of the research and discussion that have been previously presented can be concluded that the first activity of tourists visiting dark tourism in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta is a sense of curiosity. Curiosity about the events that occurred, wanting to understand more deeply about the events that occurred as a lesson, wanting to know what happened, and wanting to know evidence or artifacts due to events, is the motivation of tourists to visit dark tours in Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta the second is exploration. Explore or search for something in a location that has never been encountered or has never been known. Usually, someone who explores aims to add to the experience as a satisfaction in itself, the third motivation for tourists to visit dark tours in the Mount Merapi area of Yogyakarta is self-reflection. Self-understanding to remember the victims, empathize with the victims, feel more grateful to interpret the tragedy that occurred, as part of the known history, and tell the next generation about the events that occurred, the motivation of tourists to visit dark tours in the area of Mount Merapi Yogyakarta is spiritual. Most tourists, especially those who recognize the late Mbah Maridjan, the caretaker who died as a result of the eruption of Mount Merapi, are encouraged to make a pilgrimage to the burial place of Mbah Maridjan. Because he was a figure who in his time had a great influence on the community, of course on the local people.

### B. Suggestion

#### 1. For Tourism Managers or *Stakeholders*

Tourism managers or local *stakeholders* are encouraged to pay more attention to the awareness that there are various reasons for tourists to visit dark tourist destinations in the Mount Merapi area. It was revealed by the results of the study that the indications of death, sadness, and suffering but the historical side and natural conditions are some of its tourist attractions. Similarly, the various tourist attractions cause curiosity or curiosity, to explore as a motive for tourists to visit the dark tourism of the Mount Merapi area. Therefore, tourism managers or local *stakeholders* can maintain and do not rule out the possibility of developing management and preservation related to the surrounding natural conditions.

#### 2. For the Government

As stated by the first speaker or Mbah Asih the caretaker of Merapi in the interview above, some of the dark tourist attractions in the Mount Merapi area still have not received assistance or cooperation from the government. Then, there has been no follow-up on improving road access around tourist sites and access to evacuation routes, even though there has been a collection of tourist levies from the government. Hopefully, with this complaint, the local government will take immediate action.

3. For Travellers

It is hoped that with the potential for tourism that can provide education about knowledge related to dark history, tourists can respond to this matter while still prioritizing ethics and can wisely take wisdom from the experience gained while on site and after.

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