

# Re-designing Batik Mbako Motif Pattern

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**Abstract** Batik Mbako as one of Indonesian local textile from Temanggung, has been developed since 2009. *Mbako* means *tembakau* (tobacco) became inspiration for *batik* motif by local society. More than 30 pattern motif of Batik Mbako exist, some of them have been legally recognized by government. Nowadays, the development of motif design is less varied regarding to the lack of innovation design and has a potential to be redesign with new composition. The purpose of this paper is to create the innovation of motif pattern design composition for Batik Mbako. The methodology used by this paper was by reviewing and analysing the original Mbako motif pattern, creating new concept and redesign the shape of Mbako motif pattern. The main result of this paper was the innovation of motif pattern design for the form of original Batik Mbako motif, with three different concept and target market. This paper hopeful encourages people outside Temanggung to getting know more about Batik Mbako and gain the popularity for it. In the future those new motif design could be use by local artisan.

**Keywords** *batik, mbako*, motif, pattern, design

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## 1. Introduction

Batik Mbako is one of Temanggung iconic local textiles. According to Rukmorini, [2] states that currently there are more than 30 batik motifs that have been made and there are five motifs that have been patented. Batik Mbako has characteristics in the creation of basic forms of motif, which describe the shape of tobacco plants and activities tobacco farming. The colors used in Batik Mbako are two colors, namely natural and synthetic [4]. The batik technique used is the technique of stamped and written batik, the majority of the coloring consists of two to three colors on the motif that uses the color *colet* coloring technique. The products produced at Batik Mbako are in the form of clothing for various groups, such as shirts, party clothes, negligee, Muslim clothing, pasmina, veils, tablecloths, as well as a variety of bag models, and batik Mbako motif wood crafts.

However, based on the results of analysis and observations made by the author, mbako motifs produced are less visible, due to the non-optimal use of repetition techniques in making compositions, which only use one-step repetitions, while there are other reps, namely half-step reps that have the potential to applied, producing lines, new patterns and motifs that never seem to end, this repetition is one of the repetitions that are often used in the design of fabric motifs. In the product design Batik Mbako motifs are still less varied, for example the design of men's fashion products has not been

much variation compared to women's clothing products, men's clothing products are only in the form of long and short-sleeved formal shirts. But now the development of batik varies greatly in terms of motifs, functions to products produced, such as the Ar-kamaya brand by Danny Satriadi, the clothing produced has a distinctive motif with an edgy, dynamic design and a unique game of pattern cuts to make the product look modern and following the current fashion trends in accordance with forecasting trends. With the development of variations in the form of composition from the distillation of motifs, making new compositions using half-step repetition techniques, and the design of Batik Mbako products follow trend forecasting which will be aimed at male segmentation so as to produce varied compositions and products.

It is hoped that with this research, variations in Batik Mbako in terms of elemental form, composition of motifs and product designs for male segmentation will be applied using batik techniques.

## 2. Method

The research method used is a qualitative method with descriptive data presentation, by collecting data as follows:

a. Literature Studies, data collection through books such as "BATIK MBAKO The Story Behind the Scrolls

of Works", "A Field Guide to Fabric Design", theses such as "Batik Written on Cv. Pesona Tembakau, Judging From the Development of Motifs and Colors, "and the media

b. Interview, gave some questions to Mr. Imam Nugroho, the owner of CV. Pesona Tembakau and Batik Mbako craftsmen, about the history of Batik Mbako's discovery and patented motifs and the process of making Batik Mbako motifs.

c. Observation, with direct observation at the place of making Batik Mbako at CV. Pesona Tembakau.

d. Data analysis, this method use for determine which Motif Batik Mbako pattern should be choose to be developed, what exploration technique to be used, and what concept should be developed.

d. Experiment, develops one of the Batik Mbako motifs, which then makes a stylization, composition and determines the size of the motif in accordance with the segmentation of men to later determine the size of the batik stamp that will be printed using a batik cap in accordance with the concept and imageboard and the design of Batik Mbako motif fashion products for three market segments (men, women and children).

### 3. Results

The results of this study resulted from the research methods that have been done. Literature data obtained the fact that Batik Mbako has a lot of diversity of motifs that have been produced. The observation results provide a fact that not much development of Batik Mbako motifs have been done, as well as the maturity of character motifs for several target markets such as for women, men and kids were not strong enough. The following are the results of the analysis of this study

#### 3.1. Batik Mbako

Mbako Batik is batik originating from the Temanggung area, batik motifs created by describing the beauty of tobacco and everything that related to tobacco activity. According to Rukmorini, [2] based on an interview with Iman Nugroho, initially there was a 'campaign' contains "may hate cigarettes, but never hate tobacco", this was expressed with the aim of inviting the public in particular Temanggung region to love tobacco more, and poured with beautiful by Iman Nugroho (54) through various batik motifs produced by the unit his business, CV Enchantment of Tobacco. CV Enchantment of Tobacco is the first to make patterned batik tobacco in Temanggung, founded in a private house with Iman Nugroho's place in Tegal Temu Hamlet, Manding Village, Temanggung Regency, Java



Figure 1. Batik Mbako (*Ron Mbako*)

Central, in 2009. At that time, in several places in Indonesia, there were many demonstrations anti-drugs, cigarettes, and tobacco. Many tobacco farmers, including neighbors around the house of Faith, restless because he felt the activity of tobacco farming began threatened. The batik produced by Iman is labeled Batik Mbako. Mbako, inside Javanese language, is an expression of the people of Central Java especially for shorten the word tobacco. Iman Nugroho (2009) felt that caring deeply towards tobacco farmers because in front of his house stretches widely the tobacco plant area, which is mostly done by its neighbors own. They worry that the government will prohibit farmers from farming tobacco, even though on the one hand they have no other skills [2].

What is unique is the color used in making Batik Mbako is using tobacco leaf extract itself and mixed with other plants. The idea of making a dye extract from tobacco leaves emerged after seeing so many tobacco leaves are thrown away because they are rotten and are not sold.

In accordance with the label, all batik motifs are poured on the filled fabric about the beauty of tobacco and everything related to activities tobacco. So, there is a motif that is named Ron Mbako (tobacco leaf) and Rigen Mbako. Rigen is the name of a tobacco-drying tool commonly used on villages [2].

#### 3.2 Batik Mbako Motif Pattern Needs

##### 1. Development and exploration of Motif Entity (elements)

The development of motif motif processing is needed by Batik Mbako due to the lack of innovative innovations from the stylization of the Batik Mbako motif form elements.

##### 2. Development of Motif Pattern

The development of motif patterns is also needed by Batik Mbako, especially in the composition of repetition motifs. At present the repositioning of the existing repetition motif is only a one-step repetition that is still not dynamic enough

##### 3. Strengthening the characteristic for three different target market

Motif Batik Mbako currently does not have a strong character especially for several target markets, namely:

women, men and children. Characters that are currently available are still common and have a standard color.

### 3. Determining three motif pattern for experiment




There are three motif pattern of Batik Mbako that has been developed in this research. There are : *Wit Mbako* Motif, *Mbako Rejeng* Motif, and *Kenanga* Motif. Those motif are chosen because of the lack of innovation development that has been used on it.

### 3.2. Experiment of Batik Mbako Motif Pattern

After analysis and observation, next step was do the experimentation of motif batik Mbako with making the new style, new form and new composition of Motif Batik Mbako that inspired by the original form of Batik Mbako motif pattern.

On this table explaining the results of the experimentation.

**Table 1.** Experiment Motif Pattern Development Results







No	Visual Motif Pattern Results	Experiment Result
1		Stilation of this motif is done by processing the original form of the Wit Mba-ko motif. Stilation is a simplification of the shape of leaves and pistils of tobacco leaves, making a brighter color for young women. The composition of the motif made is a half-drop motif composition.
2		Stylizing this motif is done by processing the original form of the Rejeng Mbako motif. Stilation is done by simplifying the shape of the leaves and is-en-isen, making the colors brighter for children. Placement of the motifs is made more dinasim of the original form with a random composition.
3		Stilation of this motif is done by processing the original form of the Mbako Kenanga motif. Stilation is done to strengthen the character of leaves and supporting geometric shapes (triangles, and circles), creating a brighter color for young male targets. The composition of the motif made is a half-step motif composition of the brick-repeat method.

## 5. Discusscion



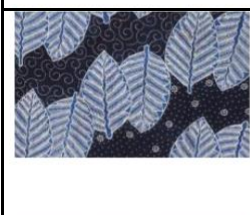



The results of processing the motifs that have been done are a single form of repetition composition. The singular shape is specially made so that it can be repeated so as to form a larger composition for a piece of batik fabric. The

next process is to make a batik stamp as a motif application technique on fabric. The following is the result of the innovation composition of the mbako batik motif on a piece of fabric accompanied by a comparative analysis of the original mbako motif.

**Table 2.** Results review of Re-Design Batik Mbako Motif Pattern

Discussion Aspect	Comparison	
	Original Batik Mbako Mptif Pattern	Motif Pattern Develop-ment of Batik Mbako
Visual		
		
		
Findings	Visually, the form of the original mbako batik motifs already strongly illustrates the atmosphere of agriculture and the story of tobacco in Temanggung. Seen from the adamyia form of tobacco leaves which are very strong characterizes Batik Mbako, but the form of elements that are monotonous and the impression that is displayed is still very traditional. The color used is still simple, in the form of one color and an old impression appears on the results of the color.	In the development of mbako batik motifs carried out in this study, changing the form to modern and dynamic is emphasized. This is done to meet the final goal of making an innovation modern motif. The innovation results can reflect the motif of a dynamic impression and have a strong character, without leaving the main form of tobacco leaves. The colors used are adjusted to a more specific target market. Young and soft colors for women and children as well warna kuat dan tegas untuk target market pria.



Composition arrangement		
		
		
Findings	The composition of the original mbako batik motif in general is a one-step repetition.	The composition of the processing of new motifs is carried out by applying a variety of repetition motif patterns, namely: the pattern of one-step and half-led motifs (half-drop repeat and brick repeat) [1]. With the development of this composition, the final result of the motif pattern looks dynamic and modern..

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## 5. Conclusion

The conclusion of this research is the new design of mbako batik motif with a more modern concept with a specific target market (women, men and children). This new pattern is applied by the stylization processing technique of visual elements from the original mbako batik motif, the application of the technique of processing a one-step, half-step (half-repeat repeat and brick repeat) motif.

With the development of motifs and the composition of motifs on mbako batik, new innovations for mbako batik products, especially for mbako batik motif developers, are CV. Enchantment of Tobacco. The processing of these new motifs broadens the possibility of developing Mbak Batik products. The development of mbako batik motifs can still continue to be developed by applying a variety of other motif compositions.