



A Study of Urban Area Image Using Kevin Lynch's Theoretical Approach: A Case Study of Pamekasan, East Java, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT : Pamekasan City serves as the administrative and primary activity center of Pamekasan Regency, East Java Province, and therefore plays a strategic role in shaping the image of the urban area. The area is characterized by a high concentration of commercial, service, and transportation activities, as well as the presence of an iconic landmark, the Arek Lancor Monument. This study aims to analyze the urban image of Pamekasan based on Kevin Lynch's five elements of city image: paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks. This study employs a comparative method within a descriptive qualitative approach, combining field-based visual observations with a theoretical analysis.

The results indicate that the urban image of Pamekasan is strongly shaped by its major paths, including Diponegoro Street, Trunojoyo Street, and Jokotole Street; the Arek Lancor Monument as its principal landmark; and activity nodes such as Kolpajung Market and Patemon Night Market. The boundaries of the urban area are defined by rivers and the residential area of Kowel. Overall, Pamekasan has a distinctive and easily recognizable urban image, with considerable potential to be further developed as an urban center with a strong spatial identity and character.

KEYWORDS: Construction management, river dredging, flood, emergency, river basin/river segments.

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I. INTRODUCTION

A city is a spatial entity formed through the interaction between human activities and the built environment, both of which continuously evolve in a dynamic manner. Urban development is characterized not only by physical growth but also by the extent to which an area can be recognized, understood, and remembered by its inhabitants. One approach commonly used to understand the legibility and identity of an urban area is the city image theory proposed by Lynch. This theory emphasizes that the image of a city is formed by five principal elements—paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks—which collectively shape the visual and mental structure of an urban area. [1]

Pamekasan Regency is located on Madura Island in East Java Province and plays an important role as a center of government, education, commerce, and culture in the central part of Madura. The regency has continued to develop alongside the increasing intensity of social, economic, and infrastructural activities. One of the areas that plays a strategic role in this development is Pamekasan City, which functions as the urban center and the primary service center for the residents of Pamekasan Regency.

As the main activity center of Pamekasan Regency, Pamekasan City exhibits complex and dynamic urban characteristics. The presence of major road networks, commercial centers, public facilities, public spaces, and the Arek Lancor Monument as a city icon contributes to the formation of a strong and easily recognizable urban image. The Arek Lancor Monument functions not only as an urban landmark but also as a symbol of the identity, history, and pride of the people of Pamekasan. This is consistent with the views of Supriyadi and Kawuluan and Warouw, who argue that landmarks are important elements in shaping the visual identity of an urban area. [2,3]



Figure 1. Map of Pamekasan City

In the context of urban and regional planning, understanding the image of an area is highly important because it can support the formulation of development directions for a built environment that is sustainable, well-structured, and distinctive. Cahyanti et al., demonstrated that the application of Kevin Lynch's city image theory can reveal the visual strengths and weaknesses of an area, thereby providing a basis for more focused and effective urban planning. [4]

Based on this background, Pamekasan City was selected as the study area because of its strategic role as a center of activity, the presence of a prominent landmark, and its active movement network. This study aims to analyze how the elements that constitute the city image, as proposed in Kevin Lynch's theory, are manifested and contribute to shaping the character of Pamekasan's urban area. The findings are expected to provide an overview of the area's level of legibility and serve as a reference for the future development of urban areas in Pamekasan Regency.

II. LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1. Urban Area Image

The image of an urban area refers to the mental representation that people develop of an environment through visual interaction, activities, and spatial experiences. Such an image is influenced not only by the physical form of the area but also by its functions, activities, and the symbolic values attached to a particular place. [1,5]

Zahnd, explains that the image of an area plays an important role in shaping urban identity, enhancing visual attractiveness, and facilitating spatial orientation for its users. A strong urban image is generally formed through the coherence of spatial structure, land use functions, and easily recognizable visual elements. In the context of urban and regional planning, the image of an area can also be used as a tool for evaluating spatial quality, particularly in assessing the legibility and clarity of the area's spatial structure. [2,6]

In addition to visual aspects, the image of an area is also shaped by the collective experiences of communities in their everyday use of urban space. Elements such as movement paths, activity nodes, area boundaries, visual markers, and district characteristics are important components in shaping public perceptions of a place. From an urban design perspective, areas with strong and recognizable visual elements are easier to understand, remember, and distinguish from other areas. Therefore, the image of an area functions not only as a physical representation but also as a means of shaping identity, orientation, and the meaning of urban space for its users. [1,7]

A well-defined urban image should be supported by the integration of land use, building form, open space, pedestrian routes, circulation systems, social activities, and the quality of the visual environment. The harmony among these elements strengthens the character of an area and creates a spatial experience that is more comfortable, orderly, and legible to users. In an urban context, a strong image can also serve as a basis for urban design control, the preservation of local character, and sustainable area development. Accordingly, urban image analysis is important for determining the extent to which the physical and non-physical elements of an area contribute to spatial identity, enhance visual attractiveness, and support the overall quality of the urban environment. [5,6,7]

2.2. Kevin Lynch's City Image Theory

In his book *The Image of the City*, Lynch argues that the image of a city is formed by five principal elements: paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks. These five elements shape the mental structure through which people understand and recognize urban space. Lynch further explains that a city in which these elements are clearly identifiable is easier to understand and navigate and tends to possess a stronger visual identity. This theory has been widely applied in urban design studies because it reveals the relationship between the physical form of a city and human perceptions of space. Abdi further notes that Lynch's approach is particularly effective for analyzing city-center areas because it can identify strategic movement points, activity centers, and the visual boundaries of an area. [1,3,8]

Kevin Lynch's city image theory identifies paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks as the five primary elements that shape the legibility and visual identity of a city. Paths function as channels of movement; edges serve as boundaries or linear margins between areas; districts represent sections of the city with distinctive characteristics; nodes act as strategic points or concentrations of activity; and landmarks function as prominent and easily recognizable visual reference points. Together, these five elements form the mental structure through which people understand, remember, and navigate urban space.

In urban design studies, Lynch's approach is widely used because it provides a framework for explaining the relationship between the physical form of the environment, visual perception, spatial orientation, and the formation of place identity. Therefore, the clearer and more interconnected these five elements are, the stronger the urban image formed through the spatial experiences of city users [1,3,8]. The elements that constitute the city image according to Kevin Lynch's theory are described as follows:

2.2.1. Landmark

In urban image studies, a landmark is understood not merely as a physical object that is visually prominent, but also as an element that contributes to the legibility of urban space. The presence of landmarks helps people construct mental maps of the urban environment because such objects are memorable, occupy prominent positions, and differ from their surrounding elements. In the context of urban design, landmarks with strong visual characteristics can function as directional references, meeting points, and spatial elements that create clearer urban experiences for city users. Therefore, landmarks play an important role in enhancing the legibility of an area, particularly in city centers, historic districts, and public spaces characterized by high levels of activity. [1,5]

In addition to serving as orientation markers, landmarks also possess symbolic dimensions associated with identity, collective memory, and the sociocultural values of a community. Iconic buildings, historical monuments, towers, district gateways, and other distinctive visual elements may represent the historical values and local character of a city. A successful landmark is not only visually dominant in terms of form and scale but is also capable of establishing an emotional connection between people and their urban environment. Accordingly, landmarks should be preserved and strengthened in area planning because they can clarify the visual structure of a city, reinforce place identity, and enhance the attractiveness of an area as a recognizable and meaningful urban space. [9,10]

2.2.2. Path

A path is a route frequently used by people in carrying out their daily activities, such as vehicular roads, pedestrian walkways, and transportation corridors. Paths constitute a dominant element in shaping the image of a city because they serve as the primary means of orientation for users of an urban area. Cahyanti et al., state that the quality of a path is influenced by road width, visual continuity, clarity of direction and destination, and the intensity of activities occurring along the route. The more active and clearly defined a path is, the stronger the resulting image of the area. [1,4]

Within the structure of urban imageability, paths play an important role because they function as the primary spaces of movement connecting various activities, land uses, and orientation points within an area. Routes that are well connected, easy to understand, and visually consistent help users identify directions, destinations, and their own positions within urban space. In an urban context, paths are not limited to vehicular roads but also include pedestrian routes, commercial corridors, public transportation routes, neighborhood alleys, and other movement spaces routinely used by the community. Therefore, the quality of paths significantly determines the level of urban legibility, as a clearer route pattern enables people to construct a more coherent mental image of the city or urban area. [1,11]

In addition to facilitating movement, paths also function as social spaces that reflect the dynamics of everyday community activities. Active street corridors are generally characterized by economic activities, social interaction, visually engaging building façades, shade-providing vegetation, comfortable pedestrian facilities, and supporting elements such as lighting, signage, and street furniture. High-quality paths, both visually and functionally, can enhance spatial experience, improve user comfort, and strengthen the identity of an area.

Accordingly, path design and management should consider route continuity, clarity of orientation, pedestrian safety, the quality of street edges, and the visual relationship between the street space and surrounding buildings so that the image of the area can be formed more clearly, strongly, and recognizably. [12,13]

2.2.3. District

A district is a part of a city that possesses relatively homogeneous visual characteristics, functions, and activities, allowing it to be distinguished from other areas. Districts are generally identified through similarities in building functions, development density, and patterns of community activity. Zahnd, states that districts play an important role in shaping urban structure because they help people recognize the principal zones within an urban area, such as commercial, residential, educational, and industrial districts. [1,6]

In urban image studies, a district is understood not merely as a physical zone characterized by functional uniformity, but also as a space that shapes the community's collective experience of an area's identity. A district becomes more readily recognizable when it has a strong visual character, relatively clear boundaries, consistent building patterns, and distinctive socioeconomic activities. In an urban context, districts help city users differentiate one area from another, such as commercial, residential, educational, governmental, and industrial areas. Therefore, districts play an important role in enhancing urban legibility, as people can remember and understand the city's structure through their recognition of zones with particular dominant characteristics. [1,6]

In addition to forming visual identity, districts also function as settings for activities that reinforce the social and economic meanings of an area. Areas characterized by well-organized functions, consistent activities, and easily recognizable environmental qualities tend to create a stronger image in the perception of urban users. Studies of urban image elements indicate that districts with clearly defined boundaries, functions, and spatial positions are more readily understood as components of people's mental representation of urban space. Therefore, in urban planning and design, districts should be considered not only in terms of formal zoning but also in relation to their visual character, intensity of activity, relationships among buildings, and users' spatial experiences, so that they can comprehensively strengthen the identity and orientation of the area. [1,14,15]

2.2.4. Nodes

A node is a strategic point where movement routes converge and where a high intensity of activity occurs. Nodes often serve as community gathering places, economic centers, or transportation hubs. Abdi, explains that nodes strengthen social interaction within an area and function as important points of orientation in the urban movement system. Prominent nodes are generally located at major road intersections, markets, public squares, or centers of public activity. [1,8]

Within the structure of urban imageability, nodes play an important role as points of orientation that connect various movement routes and community activities. The presence of a node is commonly indicated by a concentration of movement, the convergence of different modes of transportation, and a higher intensity of social and economic activities than in the surrounding spaces. In the context of urban design, nodes may include major road intersections, terminals, railway stations, markets, public squares, plazas, and public service centers that function as meeting points and decision points for users of urban space. The greater the level of connectivity and activity within a node, the stronger its role in enhancing the legibility, orientation, and image of an urban area. [1,16]

In addition to functioning as a point of orientation, a node also possesses social significance because it serves as a space for interaction, a concentration of activities, and a generator of local identity. A strong node is generally not only physically recognizable but also characterized by a clear function, high accessibility, and activities that occur repeatedly in the daily lives of the community. Therefore, nodes should receive careful consideration in urban planning because they can serve as centers of activity that enliven urban spaces, strengthen connections among different parts of an area, and improve users' experience in understanding the urban spatial structure. Thus, nodes are essential elements that not only shape movement patterns but also reinforce the social, economic, and visual functions of an area. [1,8,14]

2.2.5. Edges

An edge is a linear boundary that separates one area from another and may take the form of a river, major road, railway line, or another natural or artificial boundary. Although an edge does not necessarily function as a primary route of movement, it plays an important role in defining the visual and functional boundaries of an area. Cahyanti et al., state that clearly defined edges can enhance urban legibility and help people understand the differences in character among various urban zones. [1,4]

An edge is an element of urban imageability that functions as a linear boundary between one area and another. This boundary may consist of natural features, such as rivers, coastlines, slopes, and green open spaces, or artificial elements, such as arterial roads, railway lines, perimeter walls, canals, and infrastructure corridors. Within the urban spatial structure, edges play an important role in helping people recognize changes in the

character of an area in terms of function, physical form, building density, and patterns of activity. Clearly defined edges strengthen urban legibility by enabling users to understand when they are entering, leaving, or moving from one urban zone to another. [1,4]

In urban planning and design, an edge should not always be understood as a barrier; it may also function as a visual guide, an orientation element, and a means of controlling urban development. A well-designed edge can create a clear spatial transition between different areas, such as between residential and commercial districts, the city center and peripheral areas, or built-up areas and natural spaces. Conversely, poorly defined edges may weaken the identity of an area and make it more difficult for people to understand the urban spatial structure. Therefore, the clarity of edges should be strengthened through the careful design of road corridors, river setbacks, open spaces, building façades, and other visual boundaries so that they can reinforce the identity, orientation, and overall image of an urban area. [1,14,17]

III. RESEARCH METHOD

3.1. Data Collection Methods

The data collection process employed in preparing this article consisted of three principal methods. First, direct field observations were conducted in areas considered to play significant roles in shaping the urban image of Pamekasan. These observations aimed to identify the city's physical conditions, patterns of community movement, major routes, area boundaries, centers of activity, environmental characteristics, and prominent visual elements. Through field observations, the researchers documented urban elements that were easily recognizable, characterized by high levels of activity, and potentially served as markers of local identity. Observational data were collected through photographic documentation, field sketches, environmental condition records, and preliminary mapping of locations possessing visual and functional significance within the urban structure.

Second, in-depth interviews were conducted with informants considered knowledgeable about the urban conditions of Pamekasan, particularly local residents and users of urban spaces. The interviews aimed to explore the informants' perceptions, experiences, and assessments of the elements contributing to the city's image. Through these interviews, the researchers identified the routes most frequently used by the community, areas with distinctive characteristics, highly active gathering points, readily recognizable area boundaries, and buildings or visual objects perceived as landmarks of Pamekasan.

Third, documentation was used to collect supporting data, including city maps, planning documents, photographs of the study area, historical archives, spatial planning documents, satellite imagery, and other relevant written sources. Documentary data were used to corroborate the findings obtained through observations and interviews, ensuring that the analysis of the city's image was based not only on public perceptions but also on spatial and historical evidence. These data were also important for understanding the development of Pamekasan, its urban spatial structure, land-use functions, road network, activity centers, and physical transformations over time.

3.2. Data Analysis Method

All data obtained through field observations, interviews, and documentation were analysed using a descriptive qualitative approach. The analysis was conducted by classifying the data according to the five elements of urban imageability: paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks. Each element was examined in terms of its physical condition, spatial function, intensity of activity, visual legibility, and the meanings attributed to it by the community.

According to Moleong, qualitative data analysis is a systematic process involving the collection and organization of data, the division of data into manageable units, the identification of relevant findings, and the determination of information that can be communicated to others. Through this process, the collected data can be transformed into new information of scientific value. Anwar and Karamoy, further explain that qualitative descriptive analysis is undertaken by describing the reality or condition of an object through narrative explanations based on information obtained from parties directly involved in or associated with the conditions observed in the field. [18,19]

The final outcome of this study is intended to provide a comprehensive understanding of how the urban image of Pamekasan is formed, recognized, and interpreted by the community as an integral component of the city's identity. The descriptive qualitative analysis involved a series of categorization and interpretation procedures supported by a triangulation method.

According to Rahardjo, triangulation is an analytical method conducted by comparing information obtained from different sources and data collection techniques, including field observations and interviews, with the theoretical perspectives reviewed in the literature. This process was employed to verify the consistency and credibility of the research findings. The triangulation model applied in this study is presented in Figure 2 below. [20]

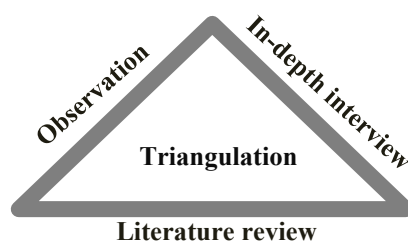


Figure 2. Triangulasi Model [20]

IV. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The following Results and Discussion section describes the five elements that shape the urban image of Pamekasan, East Java, namely landmarks, paths, districts, nodes, and edges, as presented below:

4.1. Landmark

The principal landmark of Pamekasan is the Arek Lancor Monument, which consists of five sickle-shaped blades symbolizing courage, fighting spirit, and the cultural identity of the Madurese community. Its location in the city center, at the intersection of major urban routes, makes the monument a prominent visual orientation point within the urban area of Pamekasan.



Figure 3. Arek Lancor Monument

According to Supriyadi, a strong landmark should possess a distinctive form, a prominent scale, a strategic location, and symbolic value. This view is reinforced by Krier, who argues that symbolic urban elements play an important role in shaping the collective memory of a community. The Arek Lancor Monument fulfills these criteria and therefore makes a significant contribution to the formation of Pamekasan's visual identity. [2,21]

4.2. Path

Paths constitute a major element in shaping the image of an urban area because they facilitate movement and provide spatial orientation that enables people to recognize and understand the city. Movement corridors that are active, easily identifiable, visually continuous, and supported by intensive activities contribute to the formation of a strong and memorable urban image [1,4,5]. In the context of Pamekasan, the path structure is formed by three principal routes, namely:

4.2.1. Diponegoro Street

Diponegoro Street serves as the principal commercial and service corridor in the city center of Pamekasan. A range of urban functions has developed along this route, including retail establishments, banking facilities, offices, culinary businesses, and public services. Physically, the street is approximately 12–14 metres wide and accommodates a high volume of traffic. The intensity of vehicular and pedestrian movement makes this corridor the most dominant path in shaping the image of the area. According to Hakim and Utomo, visually active commercial corridors enhance urban imageability through their visual appeal, dynamic activities, and continuity of functions. [22]

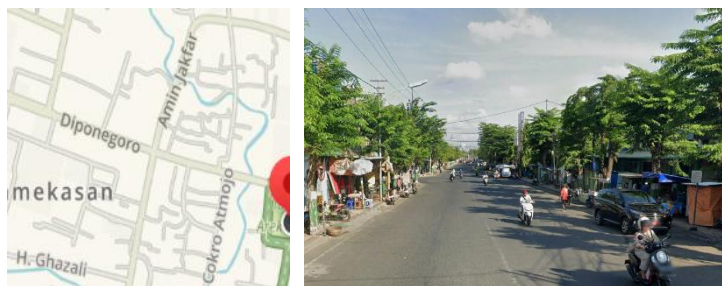


Figure 4. Map of Diponegoro Street; and **Figure 5.** Diponegoro Street

4.2.2. Trunojoyo Street

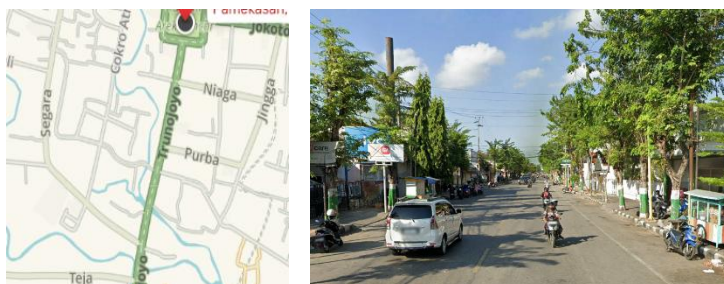


Figure 6. Map of Trunojoyo Street; and **Figure 7.** Trunojoyo Street

Trunojoyo Street is one of the principal paths in Pamekasan, functioning as a connecting route between the residential areas in the southern part of the city and Pamekasan's urban center. Physically, the street is approximately 10–12 metres wide and consists of two traffic lanes, enabling it to accommodate moderate to high traffic volumes.

The visual character of Trunojoyo Street is defined by a sequence of mixed-use buildings, including residential houses, shophouses, and local-scale service facilities, which generate relatively consistent daily activity. The route follows a relatively straight alignment and is directly connected to the city center, thereby serving as an important movement corridor leading toward the main node surrounding the Arek Lancor Monument. According to Lynch, paths characterized by visual continuity and a clearly defined connecting function are more readily recognized within the urban image. [1]

4.2.3. Jokotole Street



Figure 8. Map of Jokotole Street; and **Figure 9.** Jokotole Street

Jokotole Street functions as a supporting path within Pamekasan's urban movement system, connecting the city center with the eastern part of the city and emerging residential development areas. Physically, the street is approximately 8–10 metres wide, consists of two traffic lanes, and accommodates a moderate level of traffic. The visual character of Jokotole Street is predominantly shaped by residential uses interspersed with educational facilities and local service establishments. Consequently, activity along this corridor tends to be less intensive than that observed in the city-center corridors. Nevertheless, the route plays an important role in maintaining the continuity of circulation between the city center and its surrounding areas. According to Zahnd, supporting paths of this kind strengthen connectivity among districts and contribute to the overall legibility of the urban structure. Together, these three routes form an interconnected circulation structure that converges in the city-center area, particularly around the Arek Lancor Monument. This condition confirms that paths in Pamekasan District play a dominant role in shaping the legibility of the area, as proposed by Lynch and further supported by Zahnd. [1,6]

4.3. District

A district is a part of the city characterized by relatively homogeneous visual qualities, functions, and activities, which allow it to be clearly distinguished from other areas [1]. Based on the results of the analysis, the districts in Pamekasan can be classified into three principal areas, namely:

4.3.1. City Center



Figure 10. Aerial view of the city center district; and **Figure 11.** The city center district

The Patemon District constitutes the urban core of Pamekasan and functions as the center of government, commerce, and services. The area is characterized by a relatively high building density, a diverse range of land uses—including markets, retail establishments, offices, and public service facilities—and community activities that continue throughout most of the day. These conditions make the district a major center of movement and social interaction. According to Lynch, districts with dominant functions and intensive activities tend to develop a strong and easily recognizable urban image. In addition, the presence of major movement routes and strategic nodes within the area further reinforces its role as the city center. Zahnd, notes that city centers generally develop as areas with the highest concentration of activities, thereby influencing the spatial structure of the surrounding districts. [1,6]

4.3.2. Transitional



Figure 12. Aerial view of the transitional district; and **Figure 13.** The transitional district

The Parteker District is predominantly characterized as an urban residential area supported by local service functions. The district is marked by a moderate building density, the predominance of residential uses, and the presence of educational and community service facilities that support residents' daily activities. Activities within the area tend to be stable and neighbourhood-oriented, with a lower intensity of movement than that found in the city center. According to Lynch, a district characterized by relatively homogeneous functions and consistent activities is more readily perceived as a distinct spatial unit within the urban image. [1]

The relatively clear division among these districts indicates that the urban structure of Pamekasan is characterized by a well-organized grouping of spatial functions that can be readily recognized both visually and functionally.

4.4. Node

A node is a focal point within the city where movement routes converge and community activities are concentrated. Nodes often function as centers of economic activity, social interaction, and spatial orientation [1,8]. The principal nodes in Pamekasan include:

4.4.1. Arek Lancor Monument Area



Figure 15. Arek Lancor Park, Pamekasan

The area surrounding the Arek Lancor Monument constitutes the principal node of Pamekasan, as it is located at the convergence of several major movement routes. This area functions as a circulation hub, a public open space, and a center of the community's social and cultural activities. The presence of the monument as a visually dominant element makes the area readily recognizable and establishes it as a primary point of orientation. According to Lynch, a node located at the intersection of major routes and characterized by diverse activities tends to become a focal point within the urban image. This condition is reflected in the high intensity of community activities that frequently take place in the area surrounding the Arek Lancor Monument. ini berfungsi sebagai simpul sirkulasi, ruang terbuka publik, serta pusat aktivitas sosial dan budaya masyarakat. Keberadaan monumen sebagai elemen visual dominan menjadikan kawasan ini mudah dikenali dan berperan sebagai titik orientasi utama. According to Lynch, node yang berada pada persimpangan jalur utama dan memiliki aktivitas beragam akan membentuk pusat perhatian dalam citra kawasan. Hal ini terlihat dari intensitas kegiatan masyarakat yang sering berlangsung di kawasan Monumen Arek Lancor. [1]

4.4.2. Kolpajung Market



Figure 16. Kolpajung Market after renovation

Kolpajung Market constitutes the principal economic node in Pamekasan and is characterized by highly intensive daily trading activities. The market area serves as a meeting point for traders, customers, and transport vehicles, thereby creating a distinctive pattern of movement and activity. Visually, the area is marked by a dense concentration of buildings and time-specific activities that generally take place from morning until midday. Rapoport (2005) states that traditional markets function not only as centers of economic activity but also as spaces of social interaction that strengthen relationships among community members within an area.

4.4.3. Asy-Syuhada Grand Mosque



Figure 17. Asy-Syuhada Grand Mosque, Pamekasan

The Asy-Syuhada Grand Mosque of Pamekasan constitutes an important religious and social node that serves as a center of religious activity for the residents of Pamekasan. The mosque area becomes a focal point for community movement, particularly during congregational prayers, religious activities, and Islamic holiday celebrations. Spatially, the presence of the mosque attracts a concentration of activities in its surrounding area, thereby forming a readily recognizable activity node. According to Lynch, a node that functions as a center of social activity and is characterized by a high intensity of use plays a significant role in shaping the image of an urban area. [1]

4.5. Edge

An edge is a linear element that functions as a visual and functional boundary between different urban areas. An edge does not necessarily act as a barrier; it may also contribute to spatial orientation and help define the overall structure of an area [1,4]. The principal edges identified in Pamekasan include:

4.5.1. River in Front of the New Hospital



Figure 18. Aerial view of the river near the hospital; and **Figure 19.** Photograph of the river in front of the hospital

The river located in front of the new hospital functions as a natural edge separating the healthcare service area from the surrounding residential neighbourhoods. Physically, the river forms a clear linear feature that is readily recognized as a boundary between the two areas. The presence of this natural element helps the community distinguish the different functions of the adjoining urban zones. Lynch states that natural edges, such as rivers, play an important role in shaping perceptions of spatial boundaries and reinforcing the visual structure of urban areas. [1]

4.5.2. The Residential Area in Kowel

The residential area of Kowel functions as a functional edge between the city center and the urban periphery. Changes in the area's character, including decreasing building density, lower activity intensity, and a more dispersed spatial pattern, indicate a relatively clear boundary between the different urban zones. According to Hartanto and Pradoto, this type of functional boundary contributes to clarifying the spatial structure of an area while also guiding urban development in a more orderly and sustainable manner. [24]



Figure 20. Aerial view of the transitional district; and **Figure 21.** Transitional district area

V. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis of Pamekasan's urban image using Kevin Lynch's theoretical framework, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. Pamekasan has a relatively strong and legible urban image structure, as all five elements of urban imageability—paths, edges, districts, nodes, and landmarks—can be clearly identified.
2. The principal landmark of the area is the Arek Lancor Monument, which functions as a visual marker, a primary point of orientation, and a symbol of Pamekasan's urban identity.
3. The principal paths are Diponegoro Street, Trunojoyo Street, and Jokotole Street, which function as the dominant movement corridors used by the community.
4. The main nodes are formed in the area surrounding the Arek Lancor Monument and at major road intersections characterized by high levels of movement and social interaction.
5. The districts can be identified through the division of the urban area into the city center, residential areas, and transitional zones, each of which has distinctive functional and visual characteristics.
6. The edges are evident in the functional boundaries between the city center and its surrounding areas, as indicated by changes in building density, activity intensity, and land-use functions.

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