

LOCAL RITUALS IN THE DIGITAL AGE: THE INTERSECTION OF RELIGIOUS TRADITIONS AND GLOBAL TECHNOLOGY

Abdul Wahab Syakhrani

STAI Rasyidiyah Khalidiyah Amuntai, Kal-Sel, Indonesia
aws.kandangan@gmail.com

Ismail Fitroh

Universitas Negeri Gorontalo, Indonesia
ismaulfitroh@ung.ac.id

Moh. Imron Rosidi

Universitas Negeri Gorontalo, Indonesia
mohimronrosidi@ung.ac.id

Abstract

This study discusses the transformation of local rituals in Indonesia in the face of the digital age, particularly at the intersection between religious traditions and the penetration of global technology. Through literature review and analysis of various sources, this study identifies patterns of adaptation in local rituals, ranging from virtual documentation and participation, the use of digital applications, to the emergence of new figures such as spiritual influencers. The findings reveal that digitalisation opens opportunities for the preservation and revitalisation of traditions, but also poses challenges such as the potential commodification of traditions, shifts in religious authority, and the risk of losing sacred meaning. Successful adaptation depends heavily on the community's ability to balance the use of technology with the protection of core traditional values. This study emphasises that technology can be a tool for cultural empowerment and preservation, provided it is used wisely and based on ethics that respect the essence of religious rituals.

Keywords: Local Rituals, Digital Age, Intersection, Religious Traditions, Global Technology.

Introduction

The development of digital technology has brought changes to various aspects of human life, including religious practices and local rituals (Aslan & Ningtyas, 2025). Religious practices and local rituals are a series of actions or ceremonies carried out by communities from generation to generation based on certain rules, either in a religious or traditional context, with the aim of establishing a relationship with transcendent powers, asking for safety, or express cultural and spiritual values that are considered sacred in communal life (Madri et al., 2021; Aslan & Putra, 2020).

In today's digital age, religious traditions that have been practised for generations are beginning to undergo transformations in form, media, and delivery methods. This phenomenon opens up new spaces for interaction between sacred local