



The New Iconic Landmark of Bali in 2023: Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali

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ABSTRACT

As an effort to erase multiple blank spots in the north, east, and west parts of Bali Island, The Bali Provincial Government worked on an integrated communication tower project in Pegayaman Village, Buleleng Regency. The Tower with the name Turyapada would be the next international-level landmark in the Buleleng district. Turyapada tower is an integrated communication building that aims as a transmitter to erase multiple blank spots in Buleleng, Jembrana and Karangasem areas. Built at an altitude of 1,521 meters above sea level, the tower would have cutting-edge facilities to support its operation as a communication tower and tourism object. The building concept is designed as a green building, reflecting the relationship between nature and Balinese culture. The architecture and technology of this building are designed to be environmentally friendly. Constructed on an area of 13,767.7 m², the tower park is divided into six zones: the educational zone, communal zone, commercial zone (UMKM), recreational zone, management zone, and plantation zone. The tower's center area would provide various educational facilities, such as a planetarium, a skywalk glass bridge, and a 360-degree rotating restaurant. In the vicinity, planned to be gardens for flowers, orchards, children's play areas, glamping, flying fox, SMEs arcades, and restaurants. For the visitor's convenience, a 1-hectare parking area has been prepared, and a gondola to carry the visitor 1.4 km from the parking area to the main tower. The facilities are expected to provide new jobs and become a new economic growth center for the local area.

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BACKGROUND

As an effort to erase multiple blank spots in the north, east, and west parts of Bali Island, The Bali Provincial Government worked on an integrated communication tower project in Pegayaman Village, Buleleng Regency. The Tower with the name *Turyapada* would be the next international-level landmark in the Buleleng district. Built at an altitude of 1,521 meters above sea level, the steeple is designed with an integrated area, manifested as Bali Smarts Communication Technology Park. According to Balinese local wisdom philosophy, the tower is called "Turyapada," a representation of the duality relation of Heaven and Earth (*Akasa-Pertiwi*) and *Purusa-Pradana*, the source of life force for the universe. Turyapada Tower resembles *Orti* and *Bale Kul-Kul* as traditional Balinese communication media in customary, religious, artistic and cultural activities. The building, with its full name Turyapada

Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali, is allegedly the first iconic-monumental masterpiece in Indonesia. The tower construction is considered a marker of the 'New Era Of Bali' Civilization Progress and the implementation of the Provincial Government's Vision *Nangun Sat Kerthi Loka Bali* through Grand Universal Development Planning towards a New Era of Bali.¹ The monumental landmark is expected to be an everlasting legacy throughout the ages to the next generations of Bali.

Turyapada Concepts and Design

The Governor of Bali initiated Turyapada Tower, I Wayan Koster, which was technically interpreted as architectural design by a team from the Faculty of Engineering, Udayana University. Consists of nine professional scholars, chaired by Dr. Ir. I Made Oka Widyantara, ST., MT., IPU, ASEAN Eng.; then as members are 1) Dr. Eng. Ir. I Wayan Kastawan, ST., MA; 2) Dr. Ir. Ngakan Ketut Acwin Dwijendra

ST, SDs, MA, IPU, ASEAN Eng .; 3) Dr. Ir. I Dewa Gede Agung Diasana Putra, ST., MT., IPU; 4) Dr. Ir. A. A. Gde Agung Yana, ST., MT.; 5) Ir. I Gede Adi Susila, ST., M.Sc, Ph.D, IPM, ASEAN Eng.; 6) Ir. Made Dodiek Wirya Ardana, ST., MT.; 7) Nyoman Pramaita, ST., MT., Ph.D; and 8) I Gst A. Komang Diafari Djuni H, ST., MT.²

Bali's *Sad Kerthi* local wisdom is six ancient philosophical framework concepts to awaken the potential of nature fully and its people to achieve a higher level of physical and spiritual state. The Governor of Bali reignited the concepts through various projects that reflect the spirit of improving Bali's quality. The construction of Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali is aligned with ancient values. Furthermore, it is also considered a global communication culture framework in the form of SMARTS 6.0 KERTHI BALI concepts. In detail, according to the Provincial Government of Bali Province press release, Bali experienced five periods of communication development. They are:

- 1) SMARTS 1.0 KERTHI BALI, the era before AD to 1 AD, is the Bali of the *Hulu-Teben* (Upstream – downstream) Era, which is marked by the superiority of the God-Human relation and *Mona* as its pattern of communication.
- 2) SMARTS 2.0 KERTHI BALI is the Era from 1 AD to 500 AD, is the Bali Era of *Payogan*, which is marked by the spiritual superiority of humans with *Seha* as its pattern of communication.
- 3) SMARTS 3.0 KERTHI BALI is the Era from 500 AD to 1,000 AD, is the *Banua* Era of Bali, which is marked by the human's excellence in Dharma with *Yantra* as its pattern of communication.
- 4) SMARTS 4.0 KERTHI BALI is the Era from 1,000 AD to 1,500 AD, is the Bali Era of *Negari*, which is marked by the superiority of the powerful human being with *Mantra* as its communication pattern.
- 5) SMARTS 5.0 KERTHI BALI is the Era from 1,500 AD to 2,000 AD, is the Bali Era of *Kedaton*, which is marked by the superiority of humans with its *Jnana* (mind power) with *Drestha* as its pattern of communication.³

The Era from 2,000 AD to 2,500 AD is considered the SMARTS 6.0 KERTHI BALI, the New Era of Bali, marked by human superiority and charisma, with *Mudra* as its communication pattern. Bali Smarts 6.0 Kerthi Bali Communication

is designed with a philosophical concept based on Sad Kerthi's local wisdom culture, which contrasts with the concept of the Industrial Revolution 4.0 and the concept of Society 5.0. The number 6.0 is not a ladder or level above Digit 5.0 and Digit 4.0. Furthermore, the TURYAPADA TOWER is expected to provide major benefits and impacts, such as 1) Optimizing digital TV broadcasts with coverage reaching 80% of the Buleleng, Jembrana and Karangasem areas. 2) As a new world-class tourism attraction. 3) As a center of new economic growth. 4) Balancing the economy between the regions of North, South, East and West Bali. 5) Become a new source of local revenue for the Provincial Government of Bali, Buleleng Regency Government, and Tabanan Regency Government.

The Bali Provincial Government entrusted the tower establishment to PT Hutama Karya (Persero) and PT. Yodya Karya. The project, located in the North Bali region, is estimated to range from IDR 334.27 billion to IDR. 418 billion. The Bali provincial government and contractor agreement were signed on Wednesday, 13 July 2022. Attended by the Executive Vice President (EVP) of the Building Division, Purnomo and Yupi Wahyundari from the Provincial Government of Bali at the Bali Communication and Information Office. The Tower design combines the

values of *Sad Kerthi's* local wisdom with global technological advances. Established as an iconic-monumental work, *Loka Samasta Sakino Bhawana* means a source of prosperity and happiness for human life worldwide. In *Sad Kerthi's* philosophy, Balinese harmony is inseparable from the transformation process and the dynamics of people's lives in maintaining a balance between Nature - Humans - Balinese Culture to form a resilient and flexible custom. Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali is aligned with Sad Kerthi's local wisdom values, embodied in a global communication culture framework in the form of Smarts 6.0 Kerthi Bali.⁵

Support from Various Parties

Before the groundbreaking ceremony, the *Matur Piuning* Ceremony was conducted to ask for blessings; thus, the tower construction worked soundly, safely and successfully. The ceremonies were in some temples around Bali, such as 1) Yeh Ketipat, 2) Ulun Danu Beratan, 3) Ulun Danu Buyan, 4) Ulun Danu Tamblingan, 5) Segara Penimbangan, 6) Meduwe Karang, 7) Penegil Dharma, 8) Puncak Sinunggal, 9) Indra Kila, 10) Ulun Danu Batur, 11) Puncak Penulisan, 12) Puncak Mangu, and 13) Kahyangan Desa Adat Amerta Sari Temple. Then, on Saturday, 23 July 2022, the groundbreaking was conducted to construct the 115-meter-high tower. The ground-breaking ceremony marked the commencement of the construction of the KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali Turyapada Tower, on Saturday (*Saniscara Kliwon, Krulut*), 23 July 2022, in the Amerta Sari Traditional Village, Pegayaman Village, Sukasada District, Buleleng, Ida Shri Bhagawan Putra Natha Nawa Wangsa Pemayun carried out the groundbreaking ceremony. As a follow-up to the agreement contract. The ground-breaking activity, located directly in the Turyapada Tower Technology Park work area, was attended by the Governor of Bali, Wayan Koster. The groundbreaking ceremony was also attended by the Military Commander IX/Udayana, the Bali Police Chief, the Bali High Court, Bali's provincial parliament leaders, the Chairperson of the Commission and the Head of representative of parliament Faction, Mayors/Regents throughout Bali, Chairpersons of the parliament throughout



Figure 1.4 Governor of Bali, I Wayan Koster (Center, Red) together with the Military Commander IX/Udayana, the Bali Police Chief, and Bali's provincial parliament leaders on Ground Breaking ceremony of Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali.



Figure 2.⁸ Blank spots area over the previous years did not receive television and internet signals, spread around the north, central and east Bali areas. The presence of the Turyapada Tower will optimize digital TV broadcasts with coverage of 80% of the Buleleng, Jembrana, to Karangasem areas.



Figure 3.¹¹ Design plan of Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali.

Bali, Chancellor of Udayana University, Chancellor of Undiksha, Chancellor of ISI Denpasar, Chancellor of ITB STIKOM, Rector of INSTIKI, Chairman of STIMIK Primakara, Managing Director of BPD Bali, MDA of Bali Province.^{6,7}

The Executive Vice President (EVP) of the Hutama Karya Building Division and other honorable invitees were also at the location for the groundbreaking ceremony. The chairman of the Buleleng parliament, Gede Supriatna, SH, who attended the event, accompanied by the Chairperson of Commission II Buleleng Regency parliament, Putu Mangku Budiasa, SH, MH and a member of the

Buleleng Regency parliament, Wayan Indrawan, congratulated the construction of Tower Turyapada, which would provide various entertainment and educational features. This Tejakula Village's politician hoped that the construction of the Turyapada Tower would positively impact the community, especially the people of Buleleng, because apart from its primary function as a broadcasting tower, it would also serve as a new international recreation area in Buleleng.⁹

Bali Governor I Wayan Koster emphasized that the government must work hard and move dynamically with various innovative programs. As part

of the land, sea and air infrastructure development in a connected and integrated manner, the telecommunications infrastructure development is a serious concern that must be implemented. The construction of Turyapada Tower KBS 6.0 Kerthi Bali also received support from the Military Commander IX/Udayana, the Bali Police Chief, the Danrem 163/Wirasatya, the Bali High Court, the Chairman and Deputy Chairmen of the Bali provincial parliament, to the Chair of the Commission, Chair of the Fraction, and Members of the Bali provincial parliament.

An International-level landmark manifested as Integrated Communication Tower

Landmark is an important element of city planning because it helps people orient themselves within the city and help people identify an area. Landmarks will work well as location identity if it has distinguishable characteristics to their environment.¹⁰ In his remarks, the Governor of Bali Province, I Wayan Koster, said that Turyapada Tower would be the first iconic landmark tower in Indonesia. Koster also said that the tower, which is 1636 meters high from sea level, will become an international-class tourism attraction. Turyapada Tower is a transmitter tower with various facilities, such as the top of the tower as a transmitter for digital TV broadcasts, cellular telecommunications, and the internet. Its construction objective is the government's answer to eliminating several blank spot areas. Blank spots area over the previous years did not receive television and internet signals, spread around the north, central and east Bali areas. The presence of the Turyapada Tower will optimize digital TV broadcasts with coverage of 80% of the Buleleng, Jembrana, to Karangasem areas.

Turyapada tower is an integrated communication building. Apart from its main function as a transmitter, the tower's body would have several facilities to support tourism activities. The building concept is designed as a green building, reflecting the relationship between nature and Balinese culture. The architecture and technology of this building are designed to be environmentally friendly.

The developer constructs the tower on an area of 13,767.7 m², which will be divided into six zones. These areas are the educational zone, communal zone, commercial zone (UMKM), recreational zone, management zone, and plantation zone. The tower's center area would provide various educational facilities, such as a planetarium, a skywalk glass bridge, and a 360-degree rotating restaurant. In the Pedestrian tower section, it would have functioned as a supporting area, such as convention tours and education laboratories. A museum with the theme of Excellence in Balinese Culture in communication, technology utilization and adoption in each civilization era could be found in the tower pedestal area. In the vicinity, planned to be gardens for flowers, orchards, children's play areas, glamping, flying fox, SMEs arcades, and restaurants. For the visitor's convenience, a 1-hectare parking area has been prepared, and a gondola to carry the visitor 1.4 km from the parking area to the main tower. The facilities are expected to provide new jobs and become a new economic growth center for the local area.

In addition, the Bali area's geographical position, which has experienced several severe earthquakes, was also a consideration in the tower designing process. Therefore, the building design must have been prepared against the highest possibility of earthquake resistance. The reason is to guarantee the visitor's safety. The reliability of Turyapada Tower is specially designed with the highest earthquake resistance coefficient of 1.0 G with a structure life strength of up to 500 years. The architect teams explained that the tower would be erected with a double structural system. Therefore, it is resistant to wind and earthquake loads. With its considerable features, it is expected to be a building that is reliable, comfortable, and safe. Governor Koster acknowledged that the construction of this tower had a fairly high level of complexity. However, the contractor, Hutama Karya, targets this project to be completed faster than the target in August 2023.

Construction Phases

Ferry Febrianto, Director of Operations II Hutama Karya, said that apart from being

the first tall tower in Bali, the construction process was to present a new international tourism icon in Bali. Ferry gave examples of several iconic landmarks such as Monas in the capital of Indonesia, Jakarta then, the Tokyo Tower in Japan and the Eiffel Tower in Paris. Therefore, building quality is a top priority concern for the company, especially in project construction. In addition to the building's quality, the tower's aesthetic feature is another element to be considered. Thus, in the future, tourists will feel safe and comfortable when visiting the Turyapada Tower.

Judging from the location, height and facilities built, the Turyapada Tower will be Indonesia's first monumental iconic tower. Ferry added that this tower would be equal to the five famous towers in the world, such as the Eiffel Tower, Tokyo Tower, Toronto Tower, Macau Tower and Fernsehturm Tower. Ferry further added that Hutama Karya would carry out several stages of work in an end-to-end manner, including building structures, bore pile foundations, transmitter towers, tower architectural work, mechanical, electrical & piping work, site dev work, road pavement construction and parking, tree and grass planting, drainage, to hardscape. The Turyapada Technology Park project also has a building height of 115 meters, located at an altitude of 1,521 meters above sea level. Thus, the Tower's total height is 1,636 meters above sea level. Upon completion, the top of the Tower will be used as a place to install integrated and multi-functional infrastructure consisting of digital terrestrial TV services, cellular telecommunications, internet and community radio communications. The tower construction work is expected to be completed in approximately 450 calendar days or 1 year and 3 months. According to the ferry, his team's challenge was that the project was built on a hill.¹²

Meanwhile, the Project Manager of the Turyapada Tower Project, Ari Kurniawan, said that the construction of the Turyapada Tower began with land clearing since the construction site was in a hilly forest area. The next step would be to install the drill pile, particularly in the area of the tower drill pile with a depth of 25 meters, with a diameter of 1500 centimeters. Meanwhile, for the podium,

there is a combination of 80 centimeters in diameter and 60 centimeters in diameter drill pile; thus, the building can withstand strong earthquakes and winds. Ari added that almost 80 percent of the materials used came from domestic products. Only certain components use materials from outside. In addition, his party also invited residents from Pegayaman Village to participate in the tower construction project. Since clearing the land, 20 to 30 residents have joined as local workers.^{13,14}

CONCLUSION

Turyapada tower is an integrated communication building that aims as a transmitter to erase multiple blank spots in Buleleng, Jembrana and Karangasem areas. Built at an altitude of 1,521 meters above sea level, the tower would have cutting-edge facilities to support its operation as a communication tower and tourism object. The building concept is designed as a green building, reflecting the relationship between nature and Balinese culture. The architecture and technology of this building are designed to be environmentally friendly. Constructed on an area of 13,767.7 m², the tower park is divided into six zones: the educational zone, communal zone, commercial zone (UMKM), recreational zone, management zone, and plantation zone. The tower's center area would provide various educational facilities, such as a planetarium, a skywalk glass bridge, and a 360-degree rotating restaurant. In the Pedestrian tower section, it would have functioned as a supporting area, such as convention tours and education laboratories. A museum with the theme of Excellence in Balinese Culture in communication, technology utilization and adoption in each civilization era could be found in the tower pedestal area. In the vicinity, planned to be gardens for flowers, orchards, children's play areas, glamping, flying fox, SMEs arcades, and restaurants. For the visitor's convenience, a 1-hectare parking area has been prepared, and a gondola to carry the visitor 1.4 km from the parking area to the main tower. The facilities are expected to provide new jobs and become a new economic growth center for the local area.

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