ABSTRACT

Mangroves (Rhizophora spp.) are one of the plant species which grow in the mangrove forest of Ayah. Mangroves produce propagules or germinated mangrove fruits which are used in the process of planting mangroves. In its regeneration, a mangrove tree will produce 10% - 20% of dried or died propagules, and this amount will increase to 30% if the rainfall is too high. The propagules which have been picked and not planted for a long time will get dry. The dry propagules have a pigment, namely tannin, which is potential for use as a natural dye for textile. This study employed a qualitative method with an experimental approach. The data were collected through literature study, observations, and interviews. In the exploration process, the dye solution was obtained by extracting 2 kg of dry propagules in 10 liters of water for 6 hours. The result of staining without adding any other substances produced a brownish color on the cloth. This color was produced when the dyeing lasted for 5 minutes, and the temperature of the solution was 27 ℃. A longer dyeing process would result in a thicker and darker color. The addition of mordant to the dyeing produced diverse colors. The mordant used in this study included acid (vinegar), bases (whiting), salt, and metals (alum, tunjung). The color resulted during the dyeing process depended on the mordant, time, temperature, and number of dyeing. The fabric processing using resist dyeing technique would produce more varied patterns and motives. From this study, it is indicated that dry propagules can be used as an alternative for natural dye, which can be applied to the fabrics of various sizes for use as long cloth, scarf, and bandana.

Keywords: Resist dyeing, natural dye, mangrove propagule (Rhizophora spp.)