ABSTRACT

THE USE OF COCONUT SHELLS AS ALTERNATIVE MATERIAL FOR PRINTING PLATE IN BLOCK PRINTING TECHNIQUE

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Block printing is a printing technique that existed in China in the 3rd century. In general, block printing plates are made of material wood and metal. The appearance of the motifs produced using wood and metal printing plates has a more refined and detailed design, but the process of making wood and metal printing plates takes a longer time. The author sees an opportunity to make block printing plates using materials from the surrounding environment, such as coconut shell. Coconut plants can be found easily in Indonesia it is making Indonesia the largest coconut-producing country in the world. In general, coconut shell waste is processed into commodities that have considerable added value, such as activated charcoal, household utensils (brooms, dippers, forks, combs), accessories (wall decorations, shirt buttons, bags), souvenirs, and so on. Utilization of coconut shell waste in the craft sector, especially block printing techniques is still lacking. This study aims to utilize coconut shell waste in the fields of fashion and crafts, especially in block printing techniques. The use of coconut shell as an alternative printing plate material will produce a new visual characteristic. This study uses qualitative data collection methods, namely in the form of collecting literature studies, such as journals, books, and government reports, observations, and interviews to obtain information about coconut shell processing in the craft sector and conducting experiments on block printing plates using coconut shell material to find optimal printing results on textile materials. The result of this research is an alternative printing plate using coconut shell and visual novelty on the surface of the fabric, which will then be used as the main material in designing fashion products.

Keyword: Block printing, Coconut Shell, Printing Plate, Fashion Products