

CILACAP BATIK:

*Natural Dyes with a
Main Motifs of Marine Life
and Pelahlar Plants*

The natural wealth of Cilacap Regency is reflected in its batik patterns, such as the inclusion of marine life, one of which is the ariid catfish, as well as a rare plant known as the Pelahlar tree for its main motifs. In addition, Cilacap batik utilizes its region's potential for its color, namely the mangrove trees. These values of Cilacap batik which consist of utilizing its region's natural potential in its production process both technically, aesthetically, and symbolical values contained in its visual motifs really adds its value.



This flora is one of the rare ones found in the Nusakambangan area, which is still part of Cilacap Regency, which also means that they are still part of the identity of this region. The straight and sturdy logs are really great for building material. It has a simple leaf with a visual uniqueness in its folding patterns that resemble a fold of clothes.

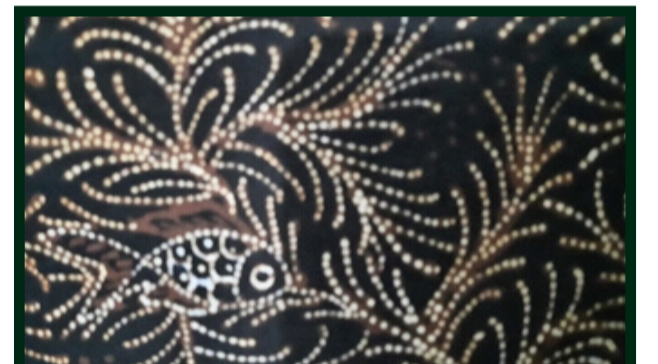
Cilacap batik with Pelahlar plant as its main motifs.



Cilacap's ariid catfish, known as jambal roti salted fish, contains benefits for human health.



Seaweed has lots of benefits for health, one of which is to prevent heart disease.



Cilacap batik with Pelahlar plant and ariid catfish as its main motifs.



Mangrove forest plays a very important role for the environment which is the ability to be able to withstand seacurrents that erode the coastal plain as well as holding off seawater from eroding the coastline. This forest, which holds tourism potential for the largest Regency in Central Java, is not only beautiful to look at but also carries another benefit, which in this case is as a dye for batik.

This natural dye made from mangrove trees are environmentally friendly. The bark of mangrove trees contains tannins which can give colors to textiles. The color that it produces are browns with its various gradations. Periodically, the mangrove trees are trimmed to help them grow much better. This trimming waste is the one that will be used to produce dyes.