

Cover Page



Universiteit Leiden



The handle <http://hdl.handle.net/1887/68523> holds various files of this Leiden University dissertation.

**Author:** Erwina, W.

**Title:** Iber Kasehatan in Sukamiskin : utilisation of the plural health information & communication system in the Sunda Region of West Java, Indonesia

**Issue Date:** 2019-02-06

## Chapter IV. RESEARCH SETTING: INDONESIA AND THE SUNDA REGION

This chapter presents an overview of the research setting of the study, encompassing the geography and historical background of the Republic of Indonesia, including the characteristics of government and political organisation as well as Indonesia's administration which has recently been reduced from 27 to 34 provinces. Similarly, a description is provided of the Sunda Region, particularly the geography and socio-demography of the Province of West Java and the research area of the community of Sukamiskin. Because of its abundant natural resources and fertile areas, West Java, the fifth largest province of Indonesia, is dominated by the agricultural sector. The *kelurahan* ('community') of Sukamiskin is located within the administrative boundaries of the urban area of Bandung, the capital of the province of West Java.

### 4.1 Synopsis of the Culture Area of Indonesia

#### 4.1.1 Indonesia: Geographical and Historical Background

Indonesia is the 16th largest country by geographical area in the world with an estimated land area of 1.904.440 km<sup>2</sup> and a sea area of 3.257.483 km<sup>2</sup>, amounting to an overall total area of approximately five million square kilometres (*cf.* BPS 2010). Representing an Archipelago, around 70% or two thirds of the surface of Indonesia are covered by water causing the country to gain the reputation of a maritime country. Located in South-East Asia, the five major islands of Indonesia, *i.e.* Sumatra, Kalimantan, Java, Sulawesi and Papua, and approximately 13,466 smaller islands are scattered along the equator whereby several areas in Indonesia, such as the Bonjol area in West Sumatra and Pontianak in West Kalimantan are passed by the equator (*cf.* Geospatial Information Agency 2015).

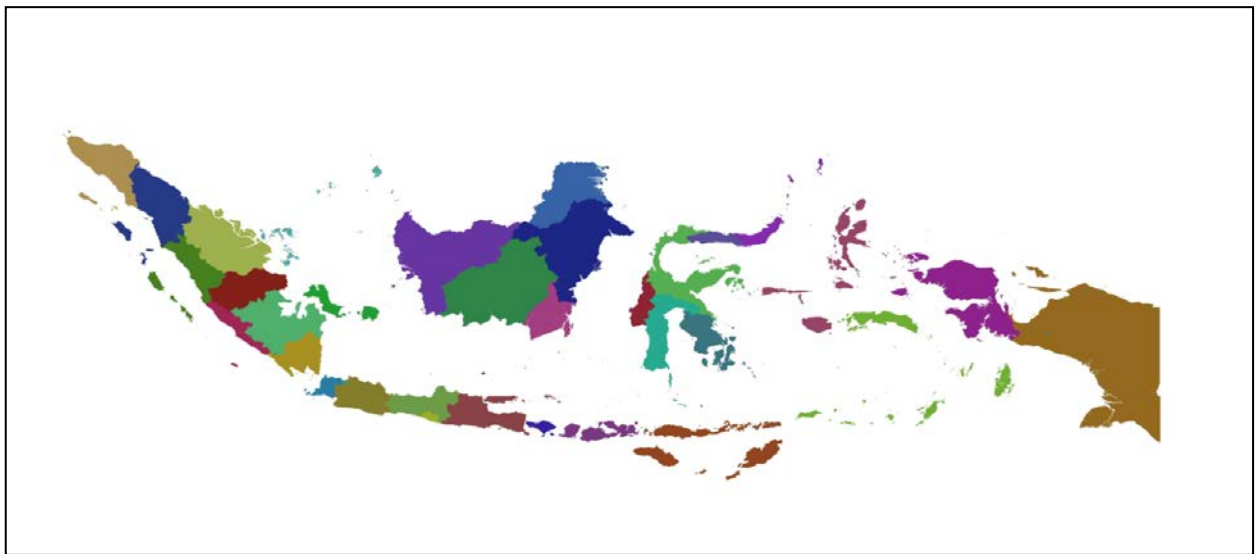
The land area of Indonesia offers vast ranges of high- and lowland inhabited by people, as well as plateaus and forest land. Throughout the country, the forests are characterised by an enormous diversity of flora and fauna which serve as a focal point not only for the general public and the industry, but also for communal actions towards biodiversity conservation. The geographical position of Indonesia between 95° to 141° East Longitude and between 6° North and 11° South Latitude is the basis for the tropical climate of the country. The amount of rainfall ranges between 1,780 and 3,175mm per year which creates two seasons, the rainy and the dry season. Furthermore, the territory of Indonesia is characterised by the meeting of several tectonic plates, including the Pacific Plate, the Eurasian Plate and the Australian Plate which cause volcanic action on the mainland and among mountains situated on the ocean floor. The movement of the tectonic plates often provokes severe earthquakes in many regions of Indonesia, especially in areas of Sumatra, Java and Sulawesi.

Indonesia is located at a rather strategic crossing point of international trade routes between the two continents of Asia and Australia, and between the Indian and Pacific oceans. Because of its strategic location, Indonesia is not only traversed by various international channels of transportation, running from west to east and *vice versa*, but it is also involved in many international commercial contacts, pertaining to the acceleration of economic growth and the establishment of many multinational corporations.

The large population and the densely populated regions account for the present number of 263,991,379 inhabitants. Distinguished as the fourth most populous country worldwide, the population, however, shows a decline in annual growth from 2.7% in 1968 to 1.1% in 2017 (*cf.* United Nations 2017).

Although Indonesia has the largest Muslim population in the world, it is not an Islamic state. It comprises an abundance of diverse ethnicities, cultures and population groups, reflected in its national motto '*Bhineka Tunggal Ika*', meaning '*Unity in Diversity*' (cf. Ricklefs 2011).

In addition to its rich biodiversity, its socio-cultural diversity is similarly plentiful in the religious, ethnic and cultural aspects and customs of the numerous ethno-cultural groups. While the majority of the Indonesian population adhere to Islam, other religions are also practiced, such as Catholic, Protestant, Hindu, Buddhist or Confucian. In addition to the many cultural activities of the people, Indonesia also offers a rich diversity of local languages as well as alongside the national language, *Bahasa Indonesia*. Although people mostly use the local language in their place of residence, *Bahasa Indonesia* is commonly used throughout the country as the official *lingua franca*.



Map 4.1 Map of the Provinces of Indonesia.

Source: *Peta matikindo* (2013)

#### *Administrative divisions*

During the past 20 years, the policies of regional autonomy have led to the establishment of new administrative regions in Indonesia which currently consists of 34 provinces and three special regions. Representing the youngest province of Indonesia, the creation of the Province of North Kalimantan with Tanjung Selor as the capital city follows the latest modification in the number of provinces which took place in 2012 and saw an increase in the number of provinces in Indonesia from 33 to 34 (cf. Map 4.1). From the 34 provinces in Indonesia, special status has been given to three regions, namely: Aceh along with Weh Island which is located in the western region of Indonesia; '*Daerah Khusus Ibukota (DKI) Jakarta*', the Special Capital Territory of Jakarta; and '*Daerah Istimewa (DI) Yogyakarta*', the Special Region of Yogyakarta which is headed by a Sultan. Acting as the Head of the Provincial Government, the position of the Sultan is currently held by Sultan Hamengkubuwono X.

Throughout Indonesia, each province has a provincial capital which is the centre of the provincial government headed by a provincial governor whereby the provincial government enjoys regional autonomy, *i.e.* the authority to manage its own territorial area. Subordinate to the Governor on a second level of regional government are: the Regent, who is assisted by a Vice-Regent, and the Heads of the Regency Government located in the Capital of the Regency; and

the Mayor, who governs the city. Each *kabupaten* ('regency') and *kota* ('city') in Indonesia is subdivided into *kecamatan* ('districts'). In order to fulfil the duties and functions assigned to Regents and Mayors, the Head of the second-level regional government is assisted by the Leaders of the Districts.

The *camat* ('head of the district') has a regional office in the territorial district which is subdivided into *desa*, *kelurahan*, *kampung* or *nagari* ('administrative villages'). The lowest level of governance within the Regency is maintained by the *kepala desa* ('head of the village') and the *lurah* ('head') of the *kelurahan* ('urban village'). While the *kepala desa* is directly elected by the inhabitants of the village, the *lurah* is a civil servant. Each village is further sub-divided into *rukunwarga* (RW) ('hamlets') which in turn are segmented into *rukun tetangga* (RT) ('neighbourhoods').

The implementation of the policy of regional autonomy in Indonesia which took place in 2001 resulted in a shift of the key administrative tasks, *i.e.* the execution of almost all government services, previously performed by the provincial government offices, to regencies and cities. By consequence, the administrative offices located in Regencies and Cities carry out rather important tasks and generally deal with matters of the peoples' daily life through the intermediary of the *lurah* or *kepala desa*. In this way, the governments of the Regencies and Cities which act on a second level of the regional government form the backbone of the provincial administration.

### *Government and politics*

The Republic of Indonesia is a unitary state with Jakarta as the Capital where the central government is located, headed by a President, who holds the office over a presidential term of five years. The form of democratic governance maintained in Indonesia adheres to the political principle of 'Trias Politica', by which the governing power is divided among legislative, executive and judicial authorities (*cf.* Portal Indonesia 2010).

In view of the roles played by the President, the Vice-president and the Ministers of the Cabinet, who all act as executives running the government, the Republic implements the presidential system, in which the Ministers and Leaders of non-ministerial agencies are fully responsible to the President. Besides, any executive has the responsibility to enact the 1945 Constitution of the Republic of Indonesia, the Laws and the Decrees of the *Ketetapan Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat* (TAP-MPR) ('People's Consultative Assembly'). While the *Majelis Permusyawaratan Rakyat* (MPR) ('People's Consultative Assembly'), *i.e.* the legislative branch of the political system of Indonesia, was in charge of electing the President until 2004, the President has since been directly elected by the people of Indonesia. Currently, Indonesia is a member of ASEAN along with ten other countries, namely: the Philippines, Malaysia, Singapore, Thailand, Brunei Darussalam, Vietnam, Myanmar, Cambodia and Laos.

### *Demography*

In 2010, the total population of Indonesia amounted to 237,641,326 inhabitants with a population growth rate of 1.9-5.8%. In 2017 according to Statistika Indonesia, the population increased to 261,989,000 inhabitants. The majority of the Indonesian population resides on Java Island which represents the political center of the country.

The population of Indonesia comprises around 300 distinct ethnic groups and 742 different languages and dialects (*cf.* Witton 2003). In general, the strong regional identities heightened a sense of pluralism among the Indonesian population. Leading to a co-existence of regional and national identities, the Javanese have, however, been identified as the largest ethno-cultural group in Indonesia which covers around 42% of the population and is dominant both politically

and culturally (*cf.* Taylor 2003). The national language of Indonesia, *Bahasa Indonesia*, has developed as an adaptation of the Malay language and a number of traditional languages. The national language is used as a tool of communication among people from different ethno-cultural backgrounds and as such serves the purpose of overcoming possible language barriers. In general, the Indonesian society has been distinguished as largely harmonious, despite the sporadic occurrence of social, religious and ethnic tensions which at times trigger violence (*cf.* Ricklefs 2001).

## 4.2 The Province of West Java

Located on the island of Java south of the equator, the Province of West Java with its capital city Bandung holds a geographically strategic position. The province extends along the southern coastline of Java Island which borders the Indian Ocean, and along the northern coastline of Java Island which borders the Java Sea (*cf.* Moniarti 2009). Covering a total area of 37,994 square kilometres, the Province of West Java is surrounded by the Indian Ocean to the south, the Java Sea to the north, the Province of Central Java to the east, the Province of Banten to the west and DKI Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia, to the northwest. The province moreover extends from west to east over a distance of approximately 265 km in length and from north to south over a distance of approximately 150 to 175 km in width, thereby accounting for about 2.46% of the total surface of Indonesia. Geographically, West Java is located between 6° and 8° South Longitude and between 105° and 108° East Longitude.

The landscape of West Java is characterised by the distribution of northern and southern lowlands as well as a central plateau which is surrounded by a number of active volcanoes, such as *i.a.* Tangkuban Perahu, Salak and Papandayan (*cf.* Table 4.3). Furthermore, the area is shaped by the flow of many rivers whereby the five largest river landscapes refer to: Ciliwung Cisadane; Cisadea Cimandiri; Citarum; Cimanuk Cisanggarung; and Citanduy Ciwulan. Additionally, West Java has a tropical climate with average temperatures between 18°-22° C and an annual rainfall of approximately 2,000-5,000mm (*cf.* Farukhi & Afrida 2008). The conditions of a tropical climate with a rather high amount of annual rainfall lead to an increased availability of fertile land in the Province of West Java which is mostly used for agricultural purposes.

### *Administrative divisions*

In general, the areas of Banten, Jakarta, Bogor, Priangan and Cirebon have long been referred to as West Java. Following the re-establishment of the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia which took place in August 1950, the Province of West Java was created as an autonomous region in accordance with Law No. 11 and Government Regulation No.31. With regard to the different levels of the Regional Government, the Province of West Java had, however, been authorised to organise and manage its domestic affairs, as regulated by Law No. 2 of 1948. Hereafter, a temporary Regional Government was established on December 30 1950, followed by the implementation of its tasks. In 2000, the movement towards regional autonomy led to a separation of the Banten Regency from West Java and to the formation of the new Province of Banten.

Nowadays, the Province of West Java is divided into 17 Regencies and nine Cities which in turn are subdivided into 620 Districts comprising 1.576 urban villages and 4.301 rural villages [1]. The Regencies of West Java are: Bogor; Sukabumi; Cianjur; Bandung; West Bandung; Garut; Tasikmalaya; Ciamis; Kuningan; Cirebon; Majalengka; Sumedang; Indramayu; Subang; Purwakarta; Karawang; and Bekasi (*cf.* West Java Government 2008). The cities of West Java include Bogor, Sukabumi, Bandung, Tasikmalaya, Cimahi, Banjar, Cirebon, Depok and Bekasi.

Bandung is the Capital of the Province of West Java. Map 4.2 indicates the location of all regencies and cities in West Java. The Regency of Sukabumi is the largest Regency in West Java, followed by the Regencies of Cianjur, Garut, Bogor and Tasikmalaya. From the nine Cities in West Java, Bekasi is the largest while Bandung forms the fourth largest city in the area.

Based on the results of the last population census conducted in 2010, the population of West Java amounts to approximately 43,021,826 inhabitants. For the period of time between 2000 and 2010, the size of the population has increased significantly by approximately 8,000,000 people.

In 2013, the number of people and households in the Province of West Java were estimated at 45,340,799 and 12,088,424. The population of West Java is expected to increase to 57,137,300 people by the year 2035 (*cf.* BPS 2014).

According to *BPS* (2014) the mortality rate is quite high, if compared with the birth rate, while the mortality rate is more than 1/4 of the birth rate in the same year. It is predicted that in 2035 the mortality rate will be more than half of the number of births. Among the health facilities available in the Regencies and Cities of West Java Province, the *Pusat Kesehatan Masyarakat* (*Puskesmas*) ('Community Health Centre') represents the health facility which is most accessible and can easily be reached by the inhabitants of the district and villages. Health centres tend to differ and take the form of *e.g.* a main public health centre located in a village; a public health centre which in smaller areas supports the main health centre; or a mobile public health centre in the form of a vehicle which directly pays visits to the neighbourhoods.

Table 4.5. shows the number of health centres with or without hospitalisation, public health care units and mobile health centres available in the regencies and cities of West Java. The data retrieved from the Health Department of West Java Province of public health centers show that 789 mobile health care services, 3,111 clinics, 50,266 neighborhood care units as well as 3,180 pharmacies and drugstores were available in the Province in 2012 (*cf.* *BPS* Provinsi Jawa Barat 2014).

Table 4.1 Number of Public Health Centres in West Java by Regency/City (2009).

No. Regency/City	<i>Puskesmas</i> without <i>Opname</i>	<i>Puskesmas</i> with <i>Opname</i>	Total	<i>Puskesmas</i> Accessory	<i>Puskesmas</i> Mobile
<i>Regency</i>					
01. Bogor	83	18	101	86	30
02. Sukabumi	53	5	58	114	58
03. Cianjur	37	8	45	114	47
04. Bandung	51	10	61	104	30
05. Garut	50	14	64	136	35
06. Tasikmalaya	25	15	40	151	50
07. Ciamis	16	35	51	118	53
08. Kuningan	31	6	37	67	38
09. Cirebon	47	6	53	67	58
10. Majalengka	23	7	30	73	33
11. Sumedang	26	6	32	72	23
12. Indramayu	40	9	49	66	52
13. Subang	32	8	40	74	45
14. Purwakarta	20	-	20	50	29
15. Karawang	33	13	46	46	23
16. Bekasi	31	8	39	47	41
17. Bandung Barat	26	5	31	33	9

(Continued) Tabel 4.1

No. Regency/City	<i>Puskesmas</i> without <i>Opname</i>	<i>Puskesmas</i> with <i>Opname</i>	Total	<i>Puskesmas</i> Accessory	<i>Puskesmas</i> Mobile
<i>City</i>					
18. Bogor	16	8	24	25	12
19. Sukabumi	12	3	15	20	15
20. Bandung	66	5	71	-	13
21. Cirebon	19	2	21	15	20
22. Bekasi	26	5	31	25	8
23. Depok	29	1	30	3	15
24. Cimahi	11	-	11	5	2
25. Tasikmalaya	17	3	20	20	20
26. Banjar	8	1	9	9	9
West Java	828	201	1.029	1.540	768
2008	863	154	1.017	1.516	697
2007	867	144	1.007	1.475	613
2006	860	137	1.001	1.452	612

Source: Provincial Health Service of West Java 2014.

#### 4.2.1 The City of Bandung

The City of Bandung is characterised by a considerable amount of cultural diversity since the independence of Indonesia. The most well-known historical event refers to the *Bandung Lautan Api* which took place in 1946 and upon which the song *Halo-halo Bandung* became an unofficial anthem of Indonesia. R.A. Wiranatakusumah II, who acted as Chief Administrator of the Regency and led the movement of migration of the Regent and citizens from Krapayk to a new place between 1808 and 1809, is considered the Founding Father of Bandung. The City of Bandung was officially declared the new Capital of the Bandung Regency on September 25, 1810 and was awarded with the status of autonomy in 1906.

Geographically, Bandung is situated at longitude 107°36 and latitude 6°55. Topographically, Bandung is located on the hills at an altitude of 791 m. above sea level, offering an alternation of highlands and lowlands (*cf.* Statistical Central Agency Bandung 2013; *BPS Kota Bandung* 2014).

Because of its rather cool climate with temperatures ranging between 18.2 and 30.4 degrees Celsius, Bandung has become known as the 'Paris of Java', a comfortable place of residence. As a result of the volcanic eruption of Mount Tangkuban Perahu which is composed of andosols materials in the center and grey alluvial deposits in the west, the soil in Bandung has formed an alluvial layer (*Lakip Kota Bandung* 25).

According to the latest statistical figures, the larger area of the City of Bandung covers 16,729,65 ha. The gradual development of the size of the area of Bandung since 1906 has been assessed by the Performance Accountability Report of the Government Institutions (*Lakip*) as follows:

1. 1906-1977: 922 ha.
2. 1917-1942: 2.810 ha.
3. 1942-1949: 5.413 ha.
4. 1949-1987: 8.098 ha.

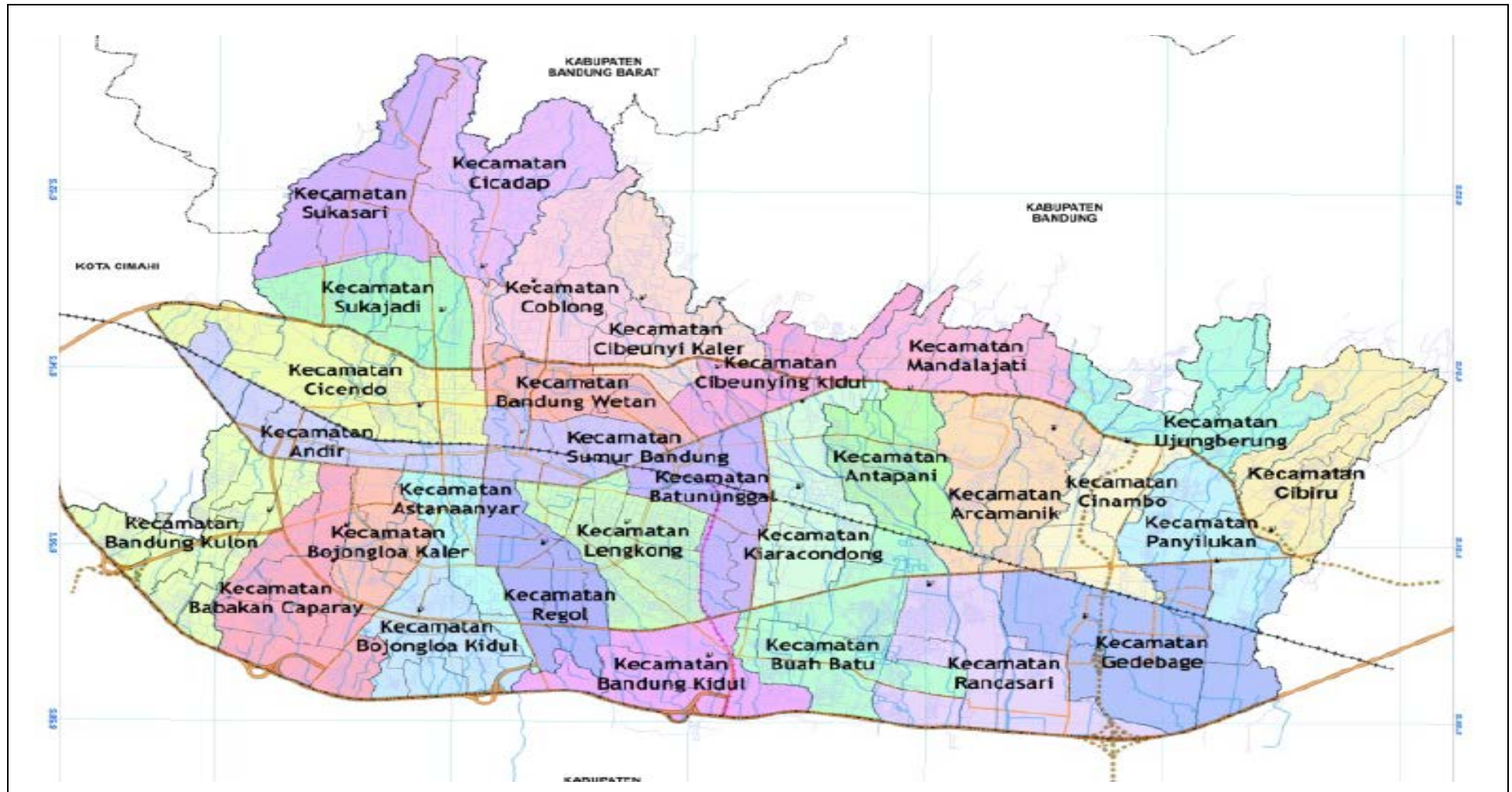
(*cf.* Badan Pusat Statistik Provinsi Jawa Barat 2014).

Between 2012 and 2013, the population of Bandung increased from 2,455,517 to 2,483,977 people. According to the population census conducted in 2010, Bandung is the third most populous city in Indonesia after Jakarta and Surabaya. The considerable growth in population size in Bandung has been attributed to many factors and conditions which attract people's interest, such as the availability of prominent institutions of higher education including *i.a.*: *Universitas Padjadjaran* (UNPAD); *Institut Teknologi Bandung* (ITB) and *Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia* (UPI). According to the population registration of 2013, the population density of Bandung was 14,847 people per ha.

The economic structure of Bandung is largely dependent on the economic activities performed by its citizens who include professions in the areas of trade as well as hotel and restaurant businesses, and education, which increases continuously each year. The geographical location of Bandung has a rather strategic effect in a number of sectors, such as communication, economics and security. Bandung also holds a central position in the Bandung Regency between the western and the eastern region as well as the northern and southern region of West Java and is directly connected to the Capital of Jakarta and to the plantation areas in West Java, such as Subang and Pangalengan.

Based on the Performance Accountability Report of the Government Institutions, Bandung is administratively divided into 30 districts, 151 urban villages, 1,561 hamlets (RW) and 9,691 neighbourhoods (RT). The 30 districts of Bandung are: Andir, Arcamanik, Astanaanyar, Babakan Ciparay, Bandung Kidul, Bandung Kulon, Bandung Wetan, Batununggal, Bojongloa Kaler, Bojongloa Kidul, Cibeunying Kaler, Cibeunying Kidul, Cibiru, Cicas, Cicendo, Cidas, Cijerah, Cinambo, Coblong, Gedebage, Kiaracandong, Lengkong, Mandalajati, Margacinta, Rancasari, Regol, Sukajadi, Sukasari, Sumurbandung and Ujungberung. Map 4.2 indicates the administrative districts of Bandung:





Map 4.2 The Administrative Districts of Bandung.  
 Source: *Pemerintah Daerah Kota Bandung* 2011.

The official website of Bandung, <http://bandung.go.id>, presents a specific vision and mission for the city which is linked to a broader development plan. The vision for Bandung describes the City as superior, convenient and prosperous. In addition, the mission for Bandung has been specified by four points:

- 1 realizing a city which is comfortable through spatial planning, infrastructure development and controlling the utilisation of quality spaces and environmental ideas;
- 2 presenting an accountable, clean and prudent governance;
- 3 building a self-reliant, qualified and competitive community; and
- 4 building a strong, advanced and fair economy.

### 4.3 The Community of Sukamiskin

#### 4.3.1. Sukamiskin: A Typical Sundanese Urban Community

Sukamiskin is a distinct *kelurahan* ('urban community') in the eastern part of Bandung with a population estimated at nearly 20,000 in 2010. Sukamiskin is well known for its prison, called *LP Sukamiskin*, where many prisoners are housed, mostly as convicts for corruption.

The term 'Sunda' first appears in the ninth century AD in an inscription found in Bogor which was written in Javanese and in the Classical Malay language. In the inscription, 'Sunda' refers to the everyday activities of the Sundanese people, occupying the Western area of the Island of Java. Ekadjati (2014: 7) writes: '*In 1579, the Sunda kingdom collapsed, then the region was divided into Sumedang Larang, Galuh, Banten and Cirebon. Furthermore, Sumedang Larang and Galuh were united, and then known as Priangan*'.

Geographically, the Sundanese culture has originated and developed in West Java whereby the Capital of Bandung is also known as the centre of Sundanese culture. In general, the Sunda Region is rich in cultural diversity of which the main characteristics have been distinguished as:

- (1) *Sunda Buhun* or *Sunda Wiwitan* which refers to the Sundanese indigenous culture in Sukabumi and Pandeglang;
- (2) *Sunda Parahyangan*, *i.e.* the cultural features in Cianjur, Bandung, Sumedang, Garut, Tasikmalaya and Ciamis; and
- (3) *Sunda Pakaleran* which includes the cultural characteristics of Karawang and Subang (*cf.* Sumardjo 2003).

Warnaen (2002) concludes that the Sundanese people identify themselves as Sundanese and are as such recognised by other communities. The term 'Sundanese' was firstly used in a way to distinguish a person's particular ancestry as well as to describe someone who practices the values and norms of the Sundanese culture, and who shares the social environment of the Sundanese communities. With regard to the social structure, the Sundanese people can be divided into three specific categories of factors: age, gender and kinship (*cf.* Ekadjati *et al.* 2014). The age category distinguishes between: (1) *orok* ('baby') from birth to 12 months of age; (2) *budak* ('child') from 1 to 5 years of age; (3) *bujang/jajaka* ('unmarried male'), and *lanjang/mojang* ('unmarried female') from 16 to 25 years of age; (4) *samawa* ('adult') from 26 to 40 years of age; (5) *tengah tuwuh* ('middle-aged') from 41 to 50 years of age; and (6) *kolot* ('old') from 50 years of age and older. The gender category encompasses a division of male and female which affects the distribution of labour both in the family and society. The husband as a

male acts as head of the family, who is responsible for the welfare of all family members, while the wife as a female has the responsibility to manage the household and to care for the children. The kinship category is rooted in the Sundanese kinship system which is primarily characterised by the basic family unit [2].

This means that the Sundanese culture practices *baraya*, a bilateral kindship system, which comprises both male and female lineages. Furthermore, the system considers the lineage of both father and mother as the parental line which is a result of the development of a particular parental kinship system (cf. Koentjaraningrat 2009). The different degrees of kinship relations which include generational divisions have led to the distinction of the following three categories: (1) *Sepuh, Kolot, Wong Tua* ('the group of old people'), (2) *Sadulur* and *Sedulur*, the group of brothers and sisters; and (3) the group of children: descendants of ego, the children of ego (cf. Ekadjati *et al.* 2014).

The Sunda Region has its own regional language which is known as the Sundanese language and is spoken as *bahasa indung* ('mother tongue') [3]. The influence of the Javanese culture on the Sundanese language is visible in particular styles which are used by its speakers in specific situations and social contexts, known as *undak usuk*. Indeed, words can be similar in writing but may have a different meaning. For example, the vowel 'o' in the Javanese language becomes 'a' in the Sundanese language. In general, the Sundanese language has recently been recognised as *basa indung* ('mother tongue' or 'first language') in *bahasa ibu* ('Sundanese language') of the Sundanese people in *Bahasa Indonesia* ('national language of Indonesia'). The Sundanese language is spoken by almost all members of indigenous communities in the Provinces of West Java and Banten, with the exception of the Cities of Indramayu and Cirebon, and some parts of Serang. In other words, virtually everyone living in the Sundanese Region understands and speaks the Sundanese language, including the inhabitants of Sukamiskin, who are speaking the Sundanese language in their daily life, *i.e.* at home, school or at work.

In addition to language, the distinct cultural characteristics of the Sundanese Region can be interpreted as what Honigman (1963) described as the three symptoms or entities of culture, *i.e.* 'ideas, activities, and artifacts' (cf. Koentjaraningrat 2009: 150). Ideas are usually expressed in the form of customs whereby the Sundanese people practice a number of customs of performing ceremonies with regard to agriculture, fishing, or the cycle of life in general. In Sukamiskin, the Sundanese rituals which are performed during ceremonies of the cycle of life start at the time of pregnancy and continue throughout the phases of birth, infancy and childhood, as well as circumcision and marriage until death. The distinct cultural features of the Sundanese people provide not only an important contribution to the cultural richness of Indonesia as a whole, but are also manifest in agriculture and other sectors as well as in the local belief systems.

## Notes

[1] According to Act 32 of 2004, a village is a legal community with boundaries which has the authority to control and manage the interests of the local communities based on their origin and local customs recognised and respected in the administration system of the Republic of Indonesia.

[2] The Sundanese kinship system incorporates a number of distinct characteristics which highlight the importance of relations by accentuating features, such as gender, relatives, ancestry, marital relationship, the degree of kinship, the position between two family members and age. In the Sundanese language, the terms used to describe kinship relations highlight the gender of family members in the following manner: *kaka / akang* ('older male

cousin’); *teteh / eceu / ceuceu* (‘older female cousin’); *mamang / emang* (‘uncle’); and *bibi / embi* (‘aunty’). In the same way, the kinship terms can accentuate ancestry as follows: *dulur* (‘brotherhood’); *anak* (‘children’); *incu* (‘grandchild’); *bapa* (‘father’); *indung* (‘mother’); *aki* (‘grandfather’); and *nini* (‘grandmother’) (cf. Ekadjati 2014).

- [3] *Bahasa Indung*, or the mother tongue, refers to the language which is acquired from the mother, is used in the family and is taught by mothers to their children in a particular cultural area. *Bahasa Indung Sunda* is of particular concern for local language experts and for the government of West Java. According to UNESCO records, the Sundanese language represents one of approximately 300 native languages in the world which is confronted with the threat of extinction. In order to ensure its use, the Sundanese language is taught formally in elementary schools and is noted in the Regional Regulation No. 5 of 2003 which concerns the preservation of regional languages, literature and characters.

