

ABSTRACT

Tourism activities in Garut Regency began when access to Garut Regency became more open. Increasingly adequate facilities and accommodations made tourism activities in Garut Regency increasingly developed. One of the Regents who contributed to tourism activities in Garut Regency was R.A.A Soeria Kartalegawa. R.A.A Soeria Kartalegawa inaugurated several tourist attractions and created several games. This study aims to determine the role of R.A.A Soeria Kartalegawa in tourism activities in Garut Regency in 1915-1929. This study uses the historical method from Kuntowijoyo which consists of 5 steps: topic selection, heuristics, source criticism, interpretation, and historiography. Data collection techniques used in this study are literature study and observation. The results of this study indicate that R.A.A Soeria Kartalegawa as a regent contributed to tourism activities in Garut Regency by inaugurating several tourist attractions in Garut Regency such as inaugurating Cipanas and Papandayan crater. In addition, R.A.A. Soeria Kartalegawa sponsored several games, initially designed to divert political attention, but successfully boosted tourism in Garut Regency. Horse racing, held at Haurpanggung, and the popular local tradition of fighting horses were among the cultural attractions created by R.A.A. Soeria Kartalegawa. R.A.A. Soeria Kartalegawa also facilitated accommodations for tourists visiting Garut Regency by establishing hotels operated by foreign entrepreneurs.

Keywords: R.A.A. Soeria Kartalegawa, Tourism, Garut Regency