

**LEGAL PROTECTION FOR CULTURAL ARTIFACTS
UNDER LAW NUMBER 5 OF 1992
CONCERNING CULTURAL ARTIFACTS
(Case Study: Thefts and Forgeries of Statues at
Radya Pustaka Museum Surakarta)**

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ABSTRACT

This research is aimed at having a picture and an answer of a legal protection for prehistoric artifacts and a legal solution of the thefts and forgeries of prehistoric artifacts of Radya Pustaka Museum Surakarta.

The types of research employed in this activity is normative legal research complemented with empirical research and bibliographical research and field research. Research was carried out in Surakarta using non-random sampling technique in the form of purposive sampling. Meanwhile the data collation process utilizes documentary and interview studies with a combination of structured and unstructured guidelines. Eventually, the research data are analyzed with descriptive qualitative method.

Basically, the protection and preservation or management of cultural artifacts are under the government responsibility. But the community, social groups and individuals may be entrusted with the obligation to protect and preserve them and failure to do them is punishable under the law. The theft of statues at Radya Pustaka Museum was solved by prosecuting the suspect. The prosecution is in keeping with the provision of article 26 of the Cultural Protection Law, and therefore the court decision sentencing imprisonment of the suspect is the right thing because he has never requested permission from the government and the Central Java BP3 has not given the suspect permit to sell or otherwise to transfer the cultural artifacts collected by Radya Pustaka Museum Surakarta, while there is no alibi to exempt him from criminal charges or penalty.

Keywords: *Legal Protection, Cultural Artifacts, Law Number 5 of 1992 on Cultural Protection*

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