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Legal Education on Inheritance and Land Administration as An Efforts to Prevent Disputes in Ringinputih Village

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ABSTRACT

Land inheritance can cause legal problems when communities lack knowledge of inheritance laws, land rights, and administrative procedures. Observations and discussions with village officials identified concerns involving heir determination, incomplete ownership documents, Letter C land records, and inherited asset distribution. This community service activity, conducted through the Community Service Program (KKN), aimed to improve legal awareness of land inheritance and asset management while promoting family deliberation to prevent disputes. The program used a participatory approach comprising observations, coordination with village officials, legal education, group discussions, and question-and-answer sessions. Data were analyzed descriptively using observations, documentation, and participants' responses. The findings show that inheritance issues extend beyond asset distribution to uncertainty about heirs, asset identification, document completeness, Certificates of Heirs (SKAW), and land administration. Participants raised questions about interfaith inheritance, Letter C land, ownership documents, marital property, and previous marriages, demonstrating the program's relevance to community needs. The activity highlighted family deliberation as a means of preventing disputes from escalating into conflict. These findings emphasize the need to strengthen legal literacy regarding inherited asset management and peaceful dispute resolution.

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INTRODUCTION

Legal certainty is crucial in matters of land inheritance, as transferring ownership rights requires a clear determination of heirs and proper administrative documentation. In the field of inheritance, legal certainty is vital because it concerns how rights to assets left by a deceased person can be legally transferred to the heirs in accordance with applicable laws. Legal certainty in inheritance matters depends not only on how the estate is divided but is also influenced by administrative procedures, the clarity of asset ownership status, and whether the procedures followed during the transfer of rights are in compliance with the law. Poor administration can lead to legal uncertainty and trigger disputes among heirs or other parties.

Indonesia applies a pluralistic inheritance legal system, meaning that more than one set of inheritance laws applies: Islamic inheritance law, inheritance law based on the Civil Code, and customary inheritance law in accordance with local community practices. This diversity of legal systems reflects the social and cultural conditions of Indonesian society; however, at the community level, it can cause problems if the parties involved do not understand the legal regulations applicable to their specific inheritance situation (Amoroso & Kharisma Rajib, 2026). Legal pluralism allows for the resolution of inheritance matters in accordance with the legal system best suited to the circumstances of the parties involved. However, this diversity can also create uncertainty if the public does not clearly understand who is entitled to be an heir, the share of the inheritance each is entitled to, and how to resolve and prove those inheritance rights.

Inheritance issues become more complex when the object being inherited is land, because in addition to knowing who is entitled to receive the inheritance, clarity is also needed regarding the status and title documents for that land. Under Indonesian land law, the transfer of land rights through inheritance is governed by land registration provisions as set forth in Government Regulation No. 24 of 1997 on Land Registration. These provisions make land registration a crucial component in providing legal certainty regarding the condition of the land and the legal relationship between the rights holder and the land they own. Therefore, the process of inheriting land is not sufficient if it is limited to merely distributing assets among the heirs; it must also be followed by the completion of land administration documents in accordance with applicable regulations.

Land is one of the inherited assets that holds very high economic, social, and emotional value for the community (Novianto et al., 2026). Land is not merely a source of livelihood but also symbolizes the continuity of a family's existence, often becoming a subject of dispute after the decedent's death (Suryati et al., 2025). In practice, land rights are frequently transferred through means such as inheritance, gifts, and sales. Therefore, the process of transferring land rights through inheritance must be supported by transparent and clear administrative procedures so that the ownership status and legal relationships among the heirs can be properly understood. Land disputes can arise if the transfer of land rights is carried out without complying with legal regulations or without sufficient documentation. Previous research on inherited land disputes indicates that uncertainty regarding who holds rights to the land, the absence of consent from the rightful parties, and a lack of adequate evidence regarding the transfer of rights can lead to disputes (Ginting & Gusmarani, 2025).

Maintaining order in administrative matters is an important preventive measure that can help reduce the likelihood of disputes. In the inheritance process, administrative procedures can be carried out through several steps, namely identifying all assets left as an estate, ensuring the completeness of ownership documents, determining who is entitled to be an heir, fulfilling the obligations of the decedent, and managing the administration of the inherited assets. The material covered in this session underscores the importance of the Heir Certification Letter (SKAW) as one of the documents related to the legal status of heirs. The material also addressed the importance of inventorying and documenting all asset-related records, settling debts owed by the decedent, executing the will in accordance with applicable regulations, and distributing the estate once all the decedent's obligations have been fulfilled.

Beyond administrative matters, resolving inheritance issues must also take family relationships into account. Disputes over inheritance can become major problems if all parties focus solely on their own interests without communicating and seeking a mutual agreement. Therefore, family discussions can serve as an initial step toward finding a solution before the issue escalates into a full-blown dispute. The educational materials provided also emphasize the importance of using peaceful means and consultation to maintain harmonious family relationships while resolving inheritance issues.

These legal and administrative issues related to inheritance are relevant to the circumstances of the community in Ringin Putih Village, Karangdowo Subdistrict, Klaten Regency. Based on initial observations and communication with the Ringin Putih Village Government, the community still lacks a clear understanding of inheritance law and the administrative procedures related to inheritance. The issues that arise are not only about who is entitled to an inheritance, but also how the assets left behind are managed and administratively verified. This was evident during the outreach session, where participants raised various questions regarding interfaith inheritance issues, the status of "Letter C" land, the completeness of land ownership documents, the division of joint assets, and assets acquired from a previous marriage. These questions indicate that the inheritance issues faced by the community are closely tied to aspects of inheritance law, the status of asset ownership, land administration matters, and relationships among family members.

Given this situation, the legal counseling provided during this activity focused not only on understanding the division of inherited assets but also covered aspects of asset and land administration, as well as methods for resolving issues through family deliberation. This integration is crucial because land inheritance issues are not merely about determining who is entitled to the land but also involve proof of land ownership, land administration processes, and the legal relationships among heirs (Cindy & Tjempaka, 2025). Furthermore, family deliberation can serve as an initial means of resolving inheritance issues within the family before disputes escalate to formal legal proceedings (Mayasari, 2017). Although previous research has addressed inheritance disputes, inheritance law, and land management, these three topics are still often examined separately. This initiative presents an approach that integrates education on inheritance law, land management, and dispute prevention through family discussions within a single legal outreach program that involves community participation. The contribution of this initiative is to provide legal certainty regarding inheritance—which involves not only determining and distributing inheritance rights but also gathering documents related to the estate, clarifying land status, and fostering effective communication among family members. This approach demonstrates that efforts to prevent inheritance conflicts at the community level must integrate legal considerations with administrative matters and family relationships.

These issues highlight that the community needs practical legal education that addresses the problems they face in their daily lives. Legal education is not merely about explaining the rules for distributing an estate but must also provide guidance on the steps the community can take after the decedent's death. Therefore, the outreach materials focus on several interrelated aspects, such as pluralism in inheritance law, the status of heirs, the categorization of inherited assets, the Heir Certification Letter (SKAW), the processing of land documents, and the resolution of disputes through family deliberation. This approach is expected to help the public to understand that legal certainty in inheritance does not depend solely on how assets are divided, but also on the clarity of documents and the completeness of administrative procedures.

This legal outreach activity was held under the theme "Enhancing the Community's Legal Awareness to Achieve Legal Certainty in Inheritance Through Orderly Administration and Harmonious Dispute Resolution." The theme was selected based on community needs identified through observation and coordination with the village government. The activity aims to provide an understanding of the law that the community can utilize to address inheritance issues in a more orderly manner. Additionally, the activity is expected to encourage the community to resolve family issues through communication and discussion before they escalate into legal problems.

This outreach program aims to help the community better understand the legal provisions regarding inheritance, how to manage inherited assets, land administration procedures, and the steps that can be taken early on to prevent disputes during the inheritance process. It is also hoped that this activity will help the community understand the importance of preparing inheritance-related documents, keeping records of inherited assets, securing land rights, and resolving inheritance issues through family deliberation. Thus, legal outreach not only provides information about legal regulations but also helps the community better understand and more effectively manage the assets left behind.

METHOD

This community service activity employed a participatory approach to identify and address community concerns regarding inheritance law and land administration. The program was part of the Community Service Program (KKN),

conducted at Ringin Putih Village Hall, Karangdowo Subdistrict, Klaten Regency, on July 18, 2026, involving local residents and village officials.

The activity consisted of four stages. First, preliminary observations and coordination with the village government were conducted to identify community needs and determine the relevant legal topics (Cibro, 2026). Second, educational materials were prepared covering Islamic, civil, and customary inheritance laws, categories of heirs, inherited asset management, Certificates of Heirship (SKAW), land administration, and family deliberation. Third, legal education was delivered through presentations using practical examples, followed by discussions and question-and-answer sessions. Fourth, participants' questions and responses were documented to identify key legal concerns, including interfaith inheritance, Letter C land, incomplete ownership documents, and joint property from previous marriages.

Data were collected through observations, coordination records, activity documentation, and discussion outcomes. The data were analyzed using qualitative descriptive methods by categorizing issues into inheritance law, asset administration, land rights, and dispute resolution, then relating them to relevant legal provisions. Program effectiveness was assessed descriptively through participant engagement and the relevance of questions raised. No pre- and post-tests were administered; therefore, changes in participants' knowledge could not be measured quantitatively (Mirfa & Rimadona, 2025).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The community service activity generated two main findings concerning inheritance-related legal issues in Ringin Putih Village. The first highlights the community's legal and administrative challenges in managing inherited assets, particularly land ownership and documentation. The second concerns the implementation of legal education as an effort to improve public understanding of inheritance regulations, land administration, and family-based dispute resolution. These findings are presented in the following sections.

Identification of Community Legal Issues

Preliminary observations and communication with the Ringin Putih Village Government revealed that inheritance issues in the community are not merely about the distribution of the deceased's assets but also involve administrative and

legal matters concerning the inherited property. These issues become particularly significant when the inheritance involves land, as the inheritance process is tied to land ownership documents and administrative procedures.

The discussion addressed several legal issues frequently faced by participants, particularly interfaith inheritance, Letter C land records, incomplete ownership documents, and the division of joint assets from previous marriages. This indicates that legal needs regarding inheritance are not limited to determining who the heirs are but also involve document management and land-related matters. These questions involve inheritance among heirs of different religions, land still classified as "Letter C," incomplete or disorganized ownership documents, and the division of a home and joint assets related to a previous marriage. These questions indicate that the public's understanding of inheritance must encompass both the legal aspects related to assets and the administrative aspects.

This issue demonstrates that resolving inheritance matters requires more than simply determining who is entitled to a share of the estate. Heirs must be aware of the condition of the assets, the required documentation, and the administrative steps that must be taken after the person who left the estate has passed away. This understanding is crucial for clarifying the legal relationship between the heirs and the estate, as well as for helping to reduce the likelihood of future disputes.

Implementation of Legal Outreach

The legal education session was held on Saturday, July 18, 2026, at 10:30 a.m. WIB at the Ringin Putih Village Hall, Karangdowo Subdistrict, Klaten Regency. The event began with an opening and welcoming remarks, followed by a presentation of the material by the speaker. The material was presented in an easy-to-understand manner so that participants could relate the legal explanations to issues that might arise in family life. The workshop material covered various interrelated topics. First, participants were given an explanation of the various types of inheritance laws applicable in Indonesia.

This material discussed Islamic inheritance law, inheritance law under civil law, and customary inheritance law. An explanation of legal pluralism was necessary because the community has diverse backgrounds and legal circumstances. This understanding serves as the foundation for the community to

determine which legal rules that are appropriate for the inheritance issues they face.



Figure 1. Participants' Enthusiasm and Question-and-Answer Discussion

Second, the workshop addressed the status of heirs and the assets left behind. Participants were taught the importance of identifying who is entitled to inherit, as well as calculating and verifying all assets left by the deceased. An inventory is necessary to clearly identify the inherited assets and prevent discrepancies in information among the heirs.

Third, this session covered the Heir Certification Letter (SKAW) and various documents related to the inheritance process. These documents play a crucial role in administrative procedures as they can be used to establish an individual's status as an heir. Understanding these documents is expected to encourage the public not only to resolve inheritance distribution through family agreements but also to consider the evidentiary and administrative aspects.

Fourth, the workshop covered how to manage land acquired through inheritance. Participants were briefed on the importance of verifying land documents and conditions, as well as handling administrative procedures in accordance with applicable regulations. This is crucial because land is one of the inherited assets that can lead to disputes if its status and ownership documents are not clearly established.

Fifth, the material guided the community in resolving inheritance issues preventively through family deliberation. Resolution through joint discussion can serve as an initial step to align the interests of the heirs before the issue escalates into a dispute or conflict. This approach does not negate the rights of those entitled

to inherit; rather, it provides the family with an opportunity to speak openly about the issue and seek an agreement acceptable to all parties.



Figure 2. Implementation of Legal Outreach

The documentation illustrates the implementation of legal outreach, particularly the discussion on resolving inheritance issues through family deliberation. Participants were encouraged to communicate openly, respect the legal rights of each heir, and seek mutually acceptable solutions based on applicable legal principles. This approach highlights the importance of deliberation not only as a means of preventing inheritance disputes but also as a way to promote legal awareness, family harmony, and peaceful resolution of inheritance-related conflicts.

CONCLUSION

A legal outreach program in Ringin Putih Village, Karangdowo Subdistrict, Klaten Regency revealed that inheritance issues in the community are not merely about how assets are divided, but also involve clarifying who is entitled to inherit, compiling an inventory of the deceased's assets, verifying the authenticity of documents, and handling the administrative procedures for land acquired through inheritance. Questions raised by participants regarding interfaith inheritance, land with "Letter C" status, incomplete ownership documents, joint property, and assets related to previous marriages demonstrate that inheritance issues involve interrelated legal and administrative aspects. The outreach program helped participants understand the various legal rules governing inheritance in

Indonesia, the role of each heir, how to gather the assets left behind, the Heir Certification Letter, how to process land titles, and the importance of family discussions in resolving inheritance issues. Active participation and the wide range of questions asked indicate that the topics discussed remain relevant to the various legal issues that arose during the program. Therefore, to prevent inheritance disputes, a sufficient understanding of the law, proper administrative management, and effective communication among family members are essential. The public must ensure that the status of the heirs and the assets left behind are clear, and gather all necessary documents so that the inheritance process proceeds in a legally sound manner. Additionally, family meetings should be held in advance to prevent conflicting interests from becoming major issues. Such legal outreach activities must continue to be conducted with content tailored to the legal issues facing the community.

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