

Empowering Women & Celebrating Strength at Parama Iswari

Writer : Adi Ruswanto



Yogyakarta, a city steeped in culture and history, has long been a hub for creative expression and societal progress. Amid its bustling streets & serene heritage sites lies a spirit of advocacy for change, reflected in its vibrant events. One such occasion is *Parama Iswari*, an inspiring annual event that celebrates the strength, resilience, and voices of women while shedding light on critical issues they face. This event held at 06 October 2024 - 26 January 2025 at *Kedhaton* complex of Yogyakarta Palace.

Date : 6 Oktober 2024 -26 Januari 2025
Place : Kompleks Kedhaton,
Keraton Yogyakarta
Time : 08.30 am – 14.30 pm
Ticket : 15,000 IDR-25,000 IDR (1 – 1.5 USD)

**Scan To Visit
Parama Iswari**





Photo by HanHas

Derived from the Sanskrit words “*Parama*” means supreme and “*Iswari*” means goddess or woman of strength, *Parama Iswari* symbolizes the highest form of female empowerment. The event serves as both a celebration and a platform to address challenges such as gender equality, women’s rights, & the importance of fostering inclusive communities.

A Fusion of Culture and Advocacy

At its core, *Parama Iswari* is a cultural showcase infused with powerful message. Hosted in various iconic locations across Yogyakarta City, including heritage sites like Taman Sari Water Castle and the contemporary Jogja National Museum, the event bridges the traditional and modern in both form and content. It features a dynamic mix of performances, exhibitions, and workshops that celebrate the diverse roles of women in society.

Traditional Performances with a Modern Twist

Central to the event are artistic performances that weave traditional Javanese dance and music with narratives about contemporary women’s struggles and triumphs. The *Bedhaya* and *Srimpi* dances, traditionally performed by women, take center stage, reinterpreted to highlight themes of courage, resilience, and leadership. Accompanied by the harmonious sounds of *gamelan* and poetry recitations, these performances offer a deeply moving experience.

Art Exhibitions and Installations

Local & international artists contribute to *Parama Iswari* with captivating works that explore the female experience. From intricate batik patterns inspired by stories of motherhood to modern sculptures depicting the fight for equality, the art on display sparks conversations and reflections.

Workshops and Panel Discussions

The event's strength lies not only in its visual and auditory appeal but also in its capacity to educate and inspire. Visitors can participate in hands-on workshops designed to empower women and their allies, such as entrepreneurship classes, leadership coaching, and self-defense training. Panel discussions bring together prominent female leaders, activists, & scholars to address pressing issues such as:

- Women's roles in preserving cultural heritage.
- Overcoming gender-based violence.
- Breaking barriers in male-dominated industries.
- Supporting mental health and self-care for women.

These sessions foster meaningful dialogue while equipping attendees with actionable insights to create positive change in their communities.

Empowering Local Communities

One of *Parama Iswari's* defining features is its commitment to grassroots empowerment. The event collaborates with local women's cooperatives and small

showcase their products and services. From handcrafted jewelry to organic skincare, these enterprises not only promote sustainable practices but also highlight the entrepreneurial spirit of Yogyakarta's women. Additionally, proceeds from the event are often directed toward initiatives supporting women's education, healthcare, & economic independence, ensuring that the impact of *Parama Iswari* extends beyond the event itself.

Why Visit *Parama Iswari*?

For tourists, *Parama Iswari* offers a unique opportunity to experience Yogyakarta through a different lens—one that combines cultural immersion with social consciousness. Beyond the city's temples and cuisine lies a vibrant community that actively champions change, and *Parama Iswari* is a testament to this.

Visitors can expect:

- A deep dive into Javanese culture and its evolving narratives.
- Opportunities to engage with local artisans and activists.
- Memorable experiences that blend art, advocacy, and community spirit.
- Insights into the universal struggles and triumphs of women around the world.



Photo by HanHas

Parama Iswari is more than just an event—it is a movement. In a world where gender disparities persist, it serves as a powerful reminder of the importance of collective action and empathy. By bringing together people from all walks of life, the event underscores the idea that empowering women is not just a women's issue, but a societal one. As the spotlight shines on the performers, speakers, and artisans at *Parama Iswari*, it also illuminates the possibilities of a more inclusive and equitable future. Every story told, every dance performed, and every conversation sparked contributes to this greater vision.

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Plan Your Visit:

Whether you are a first-time visitor to Yogyakarta or a long-time admirer of its cultural richness, *Parama Iswari* is an unmissable experience. Held annually in October, the event welcomes all who are eager to learn, celebrate, and contribute to the cause of women's empowerment.

Join us at *Parama Iswari* and be part of a movement that uplifts, inspires, and transforms. Together, let's celebrate the essence of Iswari, the supreme women who shape our world.