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# Cultural values in traditional Talo Balak music at Sanggar Kerthi Buana, Bandar Lampung

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#### **Abstract**

Cultural values are a representation of values that have been ingrained and agreed upon by a group of people as the way they behave. Culture is a whole which includes beliefs, values, technology, customs, skills and habits as a result of humans' meaning in their lives. The aim of this research is to reveal the cultural values of Talo Balak Traditional Music at Sanggar Kherti Buana, Bandar Lampung. This research uses an inter-disciplinary approach with sociocultural theory. This research uses a qualitative method with a research design, namely a case study. The focus of this study is to examine more deeply the cultural values of traditional Talo Balak music at the Kherti Buana studio. The research location chosen in this study was the Kherti Buana art studio, Bandar Lampung. The results of the discussion in this research are that Talo Balak music contains local cultural values such as the value of tolerance, the value of mutual cooperation, the value of hard work, and the value of courtesy, which based on Piil Pesenggiri's philosophy of life.

Keywords:Traditional Music, Cultural Values, Talo Balak.

#### **ABSTRAK**

Nilai budaya adalah representasi nilai-nilai yang telah mengakar dan disetujui oleh sekolompok masyarakat sebagai cara mereka berperilaku. Budaya merupakan sebuah keutuhan yang didalamnya mencakup kepercayaan, nilai, teknologi, adat istiadat, keterampilan dan kebiasaan sebagai hasil dari pemaknaan manusia dalam kehidupannya. Tujuan penelitian ini adalah mengungkap nilai-nilai Budaya pada Musik Tradisional Talo Balak di Sanggar Kherti Buana, Bandar Lampung. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan interdesipliner dengan teori sosiokultural. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan desain penelitian yaitu studi kasus. Fokus pada kajian ini adalah menelisik lebih dalam terkait nilai-nilai Budaya pada musik tradisional Talo Balak di sanggar Kherti Buana. Lokasi penelitian yang dipilih dalam kajian ini yaitu sanggar seni Kherti Buana, Bandar Lampung. Hasil pembahasan dalam penelitian ini adalah music Talo Balak memuat nilai-nilai Budaya lokal seperti nilai toleransi, nilai gotong-royong, nilai kerja keras, dan nilai sopan santun, yang berlandaskan pada filsafat hidup *Piil Pesenggiri*.

Kata Kunci: Music Tradisional, Nilai Budaya, Talo Balak.

## **INTRODUCTION**

Cultural diversity that lives and develops in society, such as values, norms, customs, arts and local wisdom, as an effort build honest personalities, good manners, tolerance, intellectual intelligence, love of culture, creativity and mutual respect for each other in an effort to build and shape the character of the younger generation. The imaginative nature stimulates the people involved in it to combine various existing feelings with abstracted reality in a communication that provides aesthetic pleasure (Rohidi, 2014: 114), one of which is through the traditional musical art of Talo Balak.

Talo Balak is a traditional Lampung musical instrument. The Talo Balak musical instrument is one of the ancestral legacies of the Lampung people which has an important role in every Lampung traditional ceremony. According to Mr. Syahri Suttan, a traditional leader in Bumi City, North Lampung, explained "that traditionally, Talo Balak music is an important part of traditional (Begawi) ceremonies." This is what makes the function and role of Talo Balak music inseparable from Lampung society.



Figure 1: Talo Balak performance

It is important for the Lampung people to maintain their noble heritage and continue to strive to pass on the cultural values of the Lampung people to the younger generation through traditional music, namely Talo Balak music. Cultural values are a representation of values that have been ingrained and agreed upon by a group of people as the way they behave. Culture is a whole which includes beliefs, values, technology, customs, skills and habits as a result of humans' meaning in their lives, which is inherited and learned from generation to generation. (Fernanda & Samsuri, 2020).

The step to maintain the cultural values of the Lampung people is through learning Talo Balak music in the studio, this aims to introduce traditional music inherited from ancestors, as well as the cultural values contained in this music to the younger generation. One of the studios that is still actively providing Talo Balak music lessons is the Kherti Buana studio.

Sanggar Kherti Buana is one of the music art studios that still provides Talo Balak music lessons. The results of initial observations and limited interviews with the owner of the studio, Mr. I Gusti Nyoman Arsana S. Sn, Talo Balak music learning aims to instill cultural values in the younger generation. This statement is due to the important role of traditional Talo Balak music in Lampung traditional ceremonies, so it is hoped that cultural values can be passed on well to the younger generation.

The results of observations when conducting initial observations regarding the cultural values contained in traditional Talo Balak music at the Kherti Buana studio were that there were several cultural values, namely the value of tolerance, the value of mutual cooperation, the value of hard work, and the value of courtesy. In line with opinion(Wibowo A, 2018)The character of the Lampung tribe is based on

the local wisdom values they adhere to, namely not wanting to be left behind by other people, being open and likes to mingle, helping each other, and really respecting people who have traditional roles and status (titles).

Research by (Barnawi, 2021) explains that The aim of Talo Balak music learning or training is to introduce and train the younger generation so they can understand Lampung musical instruments and participate in preserving culture, in this case traditional Talo Balak music.

The research described above is research related to this research. Previous research has so far not found in-depth studies related to cultural values in Talo Balak music. Based on this statement, research was carried out to find out what cultural values are contained in Talo Balak music, especially in the Kherti Buana studio. Indirectly, this research contributes to the view that behind the importance of traditional Talo Balak music in traditional ceremonies in Lampung, it also contains cultural values that need to continue to be preserved and passed on to the younger generation.

## **METHODS**

This research aims to examine the cultural values contained in the traditional Talo Balak music in the Kherti Buana studio. This research uses an inter-disciplinary approach, namely applying various scientific disciplines in analyzing problems according to the problem to be studied (Rohidi, 2011, p. 15). The theory used is sociocultural theory, This theory emphasizes social and cultural interactions

in relation to cognitive development. This research uses qualitative methods with a research design, namely a case study, looking at phenomena that occur in the field related to cultural values in traditional Talo Balak music.

The focus of this study is to examine more deeply the cultural values of traditional Talo Balak music at the Kherti Buana studio. The research location chosen in this study was the Kherti Buana art studio, Bandar Lampung. Data and data sources use primary data obtained through observations and interviews with music players, Kherti Buana studio owners, traditional leaders, music activists and the community. Then secondary data was obtained from archives, theses, journals and related books that were relevant to the research.

Regarding data collection, it was carried out by means of observation, interviews and document study. The data analysis technique applied is inductive qualitative data analysis, namely analysis based on the data obtained. Focus more on using the interactive analysis model from Miles and Huberman. The data that has been collected is then reduced, namely the process of selecting art data. Primary and secondary data are classified and then the data is presented.

The last is verification or drawing conclusions. The application of interactive data analysis in research on cultural values in Talo Balak music makes it easier for researchers to increase efficiency and allows deeper exploitation of the research material being studied.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### Kherti Bhuana Studio

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Kherti Buana Studio is one of the studios in Bandar Lampung City. This studio is one of the studios that is still active in Talo Balak music learning. Sanggar Kherti Buana was first founded in (2016) by Mr. I Gusti Nyoman Arsana S. Sn. The current number of studio members is 17 people, consisting of 2 people as trainers and 15 students. The aim of forming this studio is to participate in preserving and maintaining the traditional Talo Balak music, an ancestral heritage, because Talo Balak music is traditional music which has an important role in traditional ceremonies in Lampung.

## **Talo Balak Music**

Talo Balak is a traditional musical instrument that was born and developed throughout Lampung Province. This musical instrument has the instruments kulitang, drum, petuk, canang, gung/gong, and gujih.

# a. Kulintang

The kulintang belonging to the people of Lampung, which is part of the Talo Balak musical instrument, has a shape like the bonang, a successor to Java. Where the display is nine pencong musical instruments with the notes A Bes Cis DEG Bm Dm F#m. The Kulintang instrument in the game functions as an instrument that carries the main melody and as an opening to a Tabuhan (song).

# **b.** Drum

The gendang is a musical instrument made of leather. In the game, the drum functions to clarify the accents of the beats (songs) being played.

# c. Canang

The Canang instrument has the same shape as a gong but is smaller in diameter. In the game, it functions to regulate the rhythm and tempo of the beat (song) being played.

# d. Gujih

The Gujih instrument is shaped like the ceng-ceng kopyak in Balinese Gamelan but is smaller in size, which functions as a tempo indicator.

# e. Gung/Gong

This instrument has a large round shape with a pencone in the middle, which has the function of marking the end of each part of the percussion (song).



Figure 2: Talo Balak Music Ensemble

The Talo Balak musical instrument is one of the noble legacies of the Lampung people's ancestors which is still maintained today. Talo Balak music is very closely related to traditional ceremonies in Lampung.

According to I Ketut Suhandrika S Sn. M Pd. as an artist and activist of Talo Balak music, he believes that the presence of Talo Balak music in traditional ceremonies is to perfect the ceremony. The strains of Talo Balak music in traditional ceremonies give a traditional feel and the course of the traditional ceremony feels very religious and solemn. This is what

makes the function and role of Talo Balak music inseparable from Lampung society.

Talo Balak traditional music as an Intangible Cultural Heritage (WBTB) has been passed down from generation to generation since ancient times. Talo Balak for the people of Lampung has an important role in completing traditional ceremonies. The function of Talo Balak as a means of traditional ceremonies is one of which is to accompany the Begawi Cakak Pepadun ceremony procession.

The Begawi Cakak Pepadun traditional ceremony is a Lampung traditional ceremony which is a sign of the crowning of a new traditional balancer. The title of penyeimbangan is usually obtained by newlywed couples penyeimbangan descent and also get a new name or title after marriage. The term Balancing consists of two syllables, namely "nyembang" which means "inherit" and "pe" as an additional subject. Balancing or sometimes called Punyimbang means someone who inherits.

In the ceremonial procession, Talo Balak was present to accompany each event procession, from playing the opening percussion to accompanying the traditional Cangget dance. Lampung people believe that playing or beating Talo Balak music during the Begawi Cakak Pepadun ceremony indicates that the ceremony has been carried out well and perfectly. Because it has an important role in traditional ceremonies, Talo Balak traditional music is currently trying to continue to be developed according to the demands of the times so that the traditional arts inherited from our ancestors remain sustainable.

# Cultural Values in Talo Balak Music

Local wisdom is the intelligence possessed by certain ethnic groups which is obtained through community experience. This means that local wisdom is the result of certain communities through their experiences and not necessarily experienced by other communities. These values will be very strongly attached to society and these values have gone through a long journey of time(Ulfah Fajarini, 2014).

The noble values of Lampung culture are involved in all Lampung customs such as the kinship system, marriage, deliberation and consensus system, customary justice which is based on the Piil Pesenggiri philosophy of life. According to pramazuly (Pramazuly et al., 2021) Piil Pesenggiri is a moral order which is a guideline for the attitude and behavior of the Lampung traditional community in all their life activities. This means that every thought, action and behavior of Lampung people must be in accordance with the philosophy of life.

Piil Pesenggiri's philosophy of life experienced a dark period when there was a change in wrong interpretation, namely emphasizing pragmatic attitudes authoritarian rulers and colonialists and capitalists (samsuri, 2020). Since childhood, the Lampung tribe has been given an understanding of Lampung customs with the aim that the young generation of the Lampung tribe is familiar with the habits, demands and rules and norms that apply in social life, starting from social relations with family, society and the younger generation outside. Lampung tribe.

Guided by the values of local wisdom, the Kherti Buana studio led by Mr. I Gusti Nyoman Arsana S.Sn. trying to

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realize Lampung cultural values through learning Talo Balak music.



Figure 3: Talo Balak Music Learning

The interviewee believes that Talo Balak music contains local cultural values such as the value of tolerance, the value of mutual cooperation, the value of hard work and the value of courtesy. In line with opinion(Wibowo & Mudaim, 2018)The noble values (local wisdom) adhered to by the Lampung ethnic community have the following characteristics:

- 1. Juluk-adok (having a personality according to the traditional title he holds)
- 2. *Hang out*(visit each other to stay in touch and kindly receive guests)
- 3. *Mixed up*(active in social interactions and not individualistic)
- 4. *Sakai-waving*(mutual cooperation and mutual assistance with other community members).

# **Tolerance Value**

The value of tolerance in Talo Balak music at Sanggar Kherti Buana is reflected in the training process where participants or studio members are required to respect each other, including those of different races/ethnicities. Because the studio members consist of several ethnicities/races.

# The value of mutual cooperation

The value of mutual cooperation in Talo Balak music at Sanggar Kherti Buana is reflected in the number of musical instruments consisting of several types of instruments, each of which has its own role and function to form a complete unit in playing a song or musical accompaniment. This requires members to work together to play traditional Talo Balak music.

## The Value of Hard Work

The value of hard work in traditional Talo Balak music at Sanggar Kherti Buana is implemented through behavior that shows a serious attitude in studying traditional Talo Balak music so that it produces the expected results. Because basically Talo Balak music has an important role in every Lampung traditional ceremony, it must be played seriously.

# The Value of Politeness

The value of politeness in Talo Balak music at Sanggar Kherti Buana is realized by providing understanding to group members that they must be able to respect each other both in terms of expressing opinions, respecting other people's opinions, and maintaining the way they talk both with fellow members and with others, trainer and studio owner.

It can be concluded that cultural values must be passed on to the younger generation, this aims to maintain noble values, and the younger generation can understand the norms and rules that exist in society.

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# **CONCLUSION**

The conclusion of this research is that the cultural values of the Lampung people can be passed on to the younger generation through learning Talo Balak music, especially in the studio, because traditional Talo Balak music contains the cultural values of the Lampung people which are guided by the Pesenggiri piil such as: Juluk-adok, (having personality in accordance with the traditional title they bear), Nemui-nyimah (visiting each other to stay in touch and welcoming guests), Nengah-nyampur (active in social interactions and not individualistic), Sakaisambaian (mutual cooperation). cooperate and help each other with other community members). The cultural values in Talo Balak music at the Kherti Buana studio are the value of tolerance, the value of mutual cooperation, the value of hard work and the value of courtesy.

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# **AUTHOR PROFILE**

I Gusti Putu Agung Eka Wira Setiadi, usually called Gung Wira, was born in Bandar Lampung on July 17 1997. Gung Wira is a graduate student at the Indonesian Art Institute Denpasar, Faculty of Performing Arts, Karawitan Arts Program, who started studying in the 2015 academic year, graduating in 2019.

In 2021, I Gusti Putu Agung Eka Wira Setiadi will continue his Masters education at Semarang State University, Semarang State University Postgraduate Arts Education Program. Until now, Gung Wira is active as an arts activist in the field of Balinese Karawitan.