

THE ROLE OF SAUNG ANGKLUNG UDJO IN MULTICULTURAL SOCIETY

Khodijah Rezhi¹, Wawan Darmawan²
{resikhodijah@gmail.com ¹, wawand@upi.edu ²}

University of education Indonesia, Bandung Jawa Barat Indonesia¹, University of education Indonesia,
Bandung Jawa Barat Indonesia²

Abstract

The diversity of regional cultures is a characteristic of Indonesia or known as a multicultural country. The purpose of this paper is to describe the culture of Saung Angklung Udjo art studio, the role of Saung Angklung Udjo, multicultural society and the role of Saung Angklung Udjo in multicultural society. The method used in this paper is a qualitative research method, with literature review data collection techniques. The result of this paper is that Saung Angklung Udjo is an art studio founded by Udjo Ngalagena (alm) in 1966 in the city of Bandung, West Java, which has developed by being visited by many people from other regions and even abroad. In the show there is an interactive, that is the players involve the people who watch. Saung Angklung Udjo has a role in a multicultural society, as a means to communicate between multicultural communities and then a sense of appreciation awareness of art.

Keywords: Multicultural society, Saung Angklung Udjo, Role

INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a pluralistic country or called a multicultural country, meaning that its people have a diversity of cultures, ethnicities, religions, geographical aspects with different characteristics, each of which has its own uniqueness. The country whose society is multicultural is shown in the foundation of the state, namely Pancasila, especially the fifth principle of justice for all Indonesian people and from the motto Bhinneka Tunggal Ika it can be seen that the people of Indonesia are a multicultural society. The condition of a multicultural society in all aspects of life, especially in the cultural aspects that each region certainly has its own cultural role. So it is necessary for the community to maintain and preserve the culture. Through cultural or art centers, it can play a role in accommodating cultural diversity in Indonesia and creating social justice. A studio is a place or facility used by a group of people to carry out an activity. While the meaning of art studio is as a place of art learning, for example, such as the art of playing musical instruments, music, painting, dance, theater art and crafts (Yuzar Purnama, 2015). The role of synergy through cultural or art centers is needed for the plurality of multicultural society in Indonesia. Cultural or art studios in each region in Indonesia certainly have an important role, especially the studio known as Saung Angklung Udjo in West Java, Bandung City. Through this studio, it can play a role in fostering awareness of multicultural values and building the Nation's civilization. Saung Angklung Udjo is a place for cultural or artistic performances, especially the art of angklung itself as a musical instrument from West Java. In addition, cultures from every region of Indonesia are also performed. Thus, people who see the show both the local community itself and other regions, even foreigners who deliberately visit can grow in their souls, physically and mentally, their personal nature and the influence of the environment. Multicultural society feels awareness, progress and humanity in responding to art at Saung Angklung Udjo.

The community is the owner of the culture of art or music, from Saung Angklung Udjo they can gain knowledge and understanding of the community or visitors who come. Reflected by the attitude of appreciation of performing arts, therefore the community grows

with its awareness to maintain social harmony, nation and state. Through culture or music, namely angklung, it can illustrate diversity, that angklung music is a characteristic of the West Java region that is not owned by other regions but people need to appreciate plural cultures. The nature of musical art in the State of Indonesia is that it basically has a multicultural dimension. This means that the community itself must foster an appreciation of various Indonesian and even foreign cultures, as an example of the form of appreciation of foreigners who come to see Angklung art performances. This is the formation of a democratic attitude, living in a civilized and tolerant manner in a plural culture and multicultural society.

Globalization, which occurs rapidly in various aspects of life, makes advantages and disadvantages due to changes in the cultural aspects of society. So that cultural or art studios as a place of performance, cannot show their important role in building the civilization of the Nation of a multicultural society to be neglected.

The existing problem is that the art of music, especially angklung, which is recognized by UNESCO as a musical instrument originating from the State of Indonesia, shows a lack of appreciation from the people of West Java itself and even those from outside the region lack tolerance for other cultures. Multicultural society arises prejudice behavior (prejudice), against the culture of the region assume low. Whereas basically all cultures in the regions of Indonesia, have the same level.

Another problem is characterized by the emergence of inequality and injustice, which is felt by multicultural communities towards culture or music. It can be argued that the lack of appreciation and awareness of multicultural communities towards the culture or music of their region and other regions.

The above problems have to do with the lack of appreciation of culture or music, especially the art of angklung, which is known as Saung Angklung Udjo. From this, there needs to be a movement effort through a cultural or musical arts studio that can provide solutions for the growth of awareness of cultural change so that a tolerant multicultural society can be achieved. This paper as a study of the art of music, namely angklung integrated with multicultural society, can solve problems for various problems in the community that discuss cultural inequality.

RESEARCH METHOD

The appropriate method used in this research is qualitative research method. Qualitative is a method that seeks to lift ideographically from various phenomena and social realities. Theory development and construction can be formed from empirical phenomena or cases studied. So that the resulting theory is a strong foothold in reality, which is contextual and historical (Gumilar Rusliwa S, 2005). The data collection technique used in this research is a literature review, namely by collecting various literature and then analyzing it to the conclusion.

RESULT AND ANALYSIS

The problems found by researchers about Saung Angklung Udjo (as a West Java regional art studio) and multicultural society, in this discussion will be studied and analyzed on "The Role of Saung Angklung Udjo in Multicultural Society".

1.1 Saung Angklung Udjo

Saung Angklung Udjo was founded by Udjo Ngalagena (alm) in 1966, a person who founded it is known as Mang Udjo and his wife named Uum Sumiati. In the course of establishing the studio at first only on the small terrace of Mang Udjo's house whose address is on Jalan Padasuka 118 Bandung, over time Saung Agklung Udjo experienced a development that was certainly due to the efforts made by Mang Udjo by expanding his yard by buying land from his neighbors (Taessia Andina & Dendi Pratama, 2019).

At this time Saung Angklung Udjo as a performance art studio, which is visited by many people from the region itself, other regions and even foreign communities. In addition to being a place of entertainment, Saung Angklung Udjo is also a center of education for people who visit, as well as a cultural tourist attraction or angklung music originating from West Java.

Mang Udjo and Saung Angklung Udjo are a unity that is bound together and cannot be separated, because Saung Angklung Udjo is a form of cultural work from Mang Udjo. So that he can be considered a culturalist, educational practitioner, artist, cultural researcher and as a community leader, in essence Mang Udjo is a person who has a service to the emergence of angklung music. Until the angklung as a musical instrument recognized by the UNESCO world body.

Saung Agklung Udjo exists and develops, due to the role of an individual, namely Mang Udjo (1929-2001). He was born and raised with his culture, namely Sundanese, but during the Dutch government there was a ban on using angklung musical instruments together because the reason was that angklung could attract people to fight. This can be reinforced by an observer from the Netherlands, namely the initials G.J.N in his article about angklung in Indie magazine, August 1917. He stated, "En geen wonder: de angkloeng is militaire muziek" (and no wonder: angklung is indeed military music). Then in the magazine de Orient No. 52, December 24, 1938, the description of the Sundanese angklung is "Over het algemeen draagt angkloeng muziek een opwekkend en vroolijk karakter, maar het heft ook zijn krijgslystige en mystiekezijde" (In general, angklung music is exciting and exhilarating, but it can also generate a spirit of struggle and mystique). The creation of angklung music alarmed the Dutch government. So that from there resulted in the prohibition of angklung performances together, the Dutch government determined that angklung could only be played by children and beggars (Budiman Mahmud Musthofa & Jajang Gunawijaya, 2017).

1.2 The role of Saung Angklung Udjo

Saung Angklung Udjo certainly has a role as a performing arts studio, located at Jalan Padasukan 118 Bandung. The beginning of the studio was only a small house terrace owned by Udjo couple, but at this time not only on the terrace of the house Saung Angklung Udjo has a special area of approximately 1.5 hectares. In that area is the place for angklung performances, Sundanese art, and other regional arts that can enter 1000 (one thousand) spectators made simple and natural. The gate of Saung Angklung Udjo is made of bamboo, making it feel comfortable and peaceful. In the back area there are activities of angklung craftsmen, and activities at Saung Angklung Udjo take place every day.

The angklung in the saung owned by the initiator Mang Udjo is made of bamboo, which can be used for functional materials and art items that certainly require creativity. Saung Angklung Udjo acts as a place of art pageralan, and the musical instrument itself, namely angklung as a tool that has art and has economic value. This means that angklung made of bamboo plays a role for welfare. Through this bamboo mang Udjo, has made an icon of the traditional art of angklung music that has been inaugurated by the world.

At Saung Angklung Udjo there are activities that are held every day, where the community and also children in the Saung Angklung Udjo environment, as well as the players practice playing angklung and dancing until they are ready to perform performances watched by many people who deliberately come. Performances at Saung Angklung Udjo always open with a Wayang Golek performance as one of the Sundanese arts. Then, followed by the performance of "Heleran", the players march as a dance to show the audience who come to Saung Angklung Udjo that such things were done in the past during circumcision ceremonies or thanksgiving ceremonies for the results obtained during the harvest. Furthermore, mask dance, as a characteristic of the Sundanese tribe and other art performances including art from other regions are also performed. Until the audience is invited to feel the sensation of playing angklung together, guided by the organizers at Saung Angklung Udjo.

The role of Saung Angklung Udjo is also felt by the visiting community, in the event the angklung players involve the audience by spreading out to distribute angklung to each audience. There the audience is guided to shake the angklung so that it sounds. And after playing angklung the players invite some of the audience to come forward to dance or do children's games that were done in the old days.

1.3 Multicultural Society

Indonesia has a diverse culture of society, so it is known as a multicultural country. According to Efit Fitria Agustiany (2023), multiculturalism is an ideological solution to the problem of no longer feeling the strength of integration and awareness of nationalism in a country as a result of changes at the global level.

Indonesian society has a high level of diversity. Multicultural is a term for cultural diversity, the society is known as a group of people who have cultural differences but still live together. With the existence of a multicultural society, it can form an understanding of multiculturalism. It is very important to understand this, because in Indonesia the socio-cultural conditions, geographical location, educational background are diverse and broad.

Through the Saung Angklung Udjo studio, multicultural Indonesians can maintain a sense of tolerance and foster a sense of appreciation for culture or art from other regions because they are aware of their unity as Indonesian citizens. The location of Saung Angklung Udjo is in the big city of Bandung, as the capital of West Java Province. The city is visited by many people from various regions, with the aim of seeking knowledge, working, traveling and other interests. So that Saung Angklung Udjo as an art performance studio, is visited by people from various circles and regions and even foreign communities.

The concept of a multicultural society is to recognize other cultures or arts, with mutual respect for each other. A person named John Blacking as a professor of social anthropology at Queen's University of Belfast, Northern Ireland asked the question of how musical humans are? He conducted research on the role of music in society and culture, and the reverse role of society and culture in music, which he then stated in his theory that "Music is a humanly arranged sound". He was able to open his eyes to western music, then put humanity, and aesthetic concepts with various human values of music that exist outside the western world. From John Blacking's theory, the principle of multiculturalism can be established (Victor Ganap, 2012).

1.4 The Role of Saung Angklung Udjo in Multicultural Society

The description of the cultural or musical arts, namely Saung Angklung Udjo, cannot be separated from multicultural society because it is a benchmark for the role of Saung Angklung Udjo itself in multicultural society. Musical works of art including angklung are born from a person's thoughts and ideas, so that from the results of these thoughts comes a work of art that describes the characteristics of the region in the State of Indonesia. Each region has a cultural character, especially the art of music originating from West Java can act as a means to communicate between multicultural communities.

Saung Angklung Udjo has a role in creating social conditions of multicultural society by developing Sundanese cultural activities. Through Saung Angklung Udjo, all activities that smell like art develop which in the process there is participation from the surrounding community, namely from production activities, education and most importantly in angklung performances.

The cultural or art studio in Bandung, Saung Angklung Udjo, is famous for its musical instrument angklung and as a musical instrument recognized by UNESCO (a world institution). Through angklung musical instruments play an important role, in the cultural and spiritual life of multicultural communities. In addition, multicultural communities that have emotional awareness and are tolerant of musical instruments can be seen through the exploration of values, expression, imagination, intellect, emotions and have a drive to understand the diversity that exists.

The role of Saung Angklung Udjo for a diverse or multicultural society is that it can foster appreciation, creation, expression, harmony, aesthetics, help people develop ethnic identity, self-empowerment and interpersonal relationships. Of the things that need to be grown, through the cultural or art studio Saung Angklung Udjo also grows social and community recreation.

CONCLUSION

Indonesia is a multicultural country whose culture is diverse, this cannot be seen as a weakness but from diversity can foster the strength of the tolerant awareness of the people united by the unity of Indonesia.

From the existence of globalization and the development of science and technology, it results in cultural changes, especially the lack of interest or appreciation of the community for the local music of their region and other regions. This can be overcome by fostering multicultural awareness through the role of music, especially through cultural or art centers, namely Saung Angklung Udjo. When the awareness of multicultural society grows, there will be harmony of unity among the people of the nation and state.

This paper has suggestions that can be used as a starting point, for further research and can be followed up.

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