

ABSTRACT

THE *GAMOLAN* MUSIC INSTRUMENT AS A TRADITIONAL COMMUNICATION MEDIUM

By

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The background of this research is that *gamolan* traditional music instrument from Lampung Barat is less known by the society especially the youth of Lampung barat. The researcher wants to know the function of *gamolan* for Lampung Barat society. The problem statements in this research are: “what are functions of *gamolan* traditional music instruments as a traditional communication medium, and how does the understanding of Lampung Barat youth to *gamolan* as a traditional communication medium.

The research objectives are to find out the function of *gamolan* as a traditional communication medium and to find out the understanding of Lampung Barat youth to the function of *gamolan* as a traditional communication medium.

This is a descriptive qualitative research. The location was in Sukabumi, Kembahang, and Kenali villages in Lampung Barat regency. Informants are selected using purposive sampling. They are traditional public figures from Sukabumi, Kembahang, and Kenali villages, the youth of Sukabumi village, and a previous *gamolan* researcher. Data are collected using interview, observation, and documentation.

The results are as follows. *Gamolan* instrument music as a traditional communication medium is used in *Saibatin* Lampung traditional marriage called *nayyuh*, and in bachelor and maid event called *nyambai*: an event of dancing and mutual response nursery rhyme. In dances, *gamolan* functions as accompanying music in *Batin* and *Sembah* dances. In religious events, *gamolan* is seldom used because it is not suitable for such events. In religious events, Lampung Barat society uses *rebana* music instruments. In vocal instruments, *gamolan* is used to accompany *segata* and *pepacukh* rhyme.

There are differences in understanding amongst Lampung Barat youth. The youth in Sukabumi and Kembahang loves *gamolan*; even though some of the youth has traveling outside for making life. They are also able to play and make *gamolan* music instrument with the proper tone. The youth in Kenali village of Belalau

district cannot play *gamolan* and they do not understand the function and meaning of *gamolan*.

The researcher suggests that *gamolan* should be conserved. Lampung province government together with Lampung Barat society should concern and conserve *gamolan* traditional music instrument as the regional culture identity of Lampung barat, the regional traditional music existence should be continually developed, so that the next generation will recognize and love their traditional music.