



CATHARSIS 10 (1) 2021

Halaman: 34-40

p-ISSN 2252-6900 I e-ISSN 2502-4531

Catharsis: Journal of Arts Education

<http://journal.unnes.ac.id/sju/index.php/chatarsis>



Bamboo Flute Music Development in Timor Tengah Utara Community in The Context of Social Changes

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Received 25 January 2021, Accepted 29 March 2021, Published 31 May 2021

Abstrack

Bamboo flute music is a typical traditional music of Timor Tengah Utara (TTU). It was one of the most favourable traditional arts and shown at various events, such as religious events, local government events even as a welcoming music for the country guests. As the time goes by, the existence of bamboo flute music currently has been declined and it was because of various factors, one of it was the social and cultural changes of the community which influenced the development of bamboo flute music. The method used in this research was analytical qualitative method. The data collection techniques used observation, interview, and document study. The technique of data validity used sources triangulation. The data analysis in this research used social changes theory. Based on the results of this research, it can be found that the development of bamboo flute music is influenced by the changes in cultural elements which are the knowledge system that evolves over the time; the livelihood system that the majority of the community back then was as farmers and now turn into office employees; the technology system that is the current rapid development and advanced technology information which impacts on the technology effectiveness and efficiency towards the community life; as well as the art elements that continue to develop according to the needs and trend. This research expands the perspective of the readers about the existence and influence of cultural elements changes towards the development of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency.

Keywords: Development, Bamboo flute music, and social changes

DOI : <https://doi.org/10.15294/catharsis.v10i1.46955>

INTRODUCTION

East Nusa Tenggara is one of the provinces in Indonesia that has various traditional music, one of them is bamboo flute music that is located in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. East Nusa Tenggara province is terribly rich with its traditional arts that become its own attraction. Rohidi (2000:115) explained that art is an integrative element that binds and unites the different action guides becoming one complete, comprehensive, and operational design as well as it can be accepted as one matter that reflects the configuration of the design itself.

Traditional music is a music inherited from one generation to the next generation (Banoe, 2003 : 289). According to Menurut Sedyawati (1992:23), traditional music is a music used as an embodiment and cultural value in accordance with the tradition. Meanwhile according to Tumbijo (1977:13), traditional music is the cultural arts that has been inherited from generation to generation that have lived and developed in certain areas.

Bamboo flute is a typical traditional music of East Nusa Tenggara community that includes into type of aerophone music, it means that the source of the sound is produced from the air vibration inside the music instrument. Like the name of the instrument, the bamboo flute music is made of bamboo that is produced manually and simply becoming a unique music instrument.

As it does not have much different from other musical instruments in various regions in Indonesia, this music instrument is played by blowing it. The uniqueness of this bamboo flute is in its play that is divided into three groups, each of which has different size, sound, and function. Generally, on the bamboo flute play in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency, there are three

groups, namely song flute group, trumpet flute group, and bass flute group. The most dominant uniqueness of this bamboo flute instrument is on its bass bamboo flute that has enormous size as well as there is a unique resonance tube that no bamboo flutes from any other regions have.

The existence of the bamboo flute was close to the life of community in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. In the past, bamboo flute music was often used in the traditional ceremonies as entertainment, an accompaniment to hymns at church masses, a welcome for guests, appearing in the event held by the regency and provincial governments as well as in celebrating the national holidays and even being included in the formal learning in elementary schools as local content subject. The existence of bamboo flute music was in heyday and it can be proved by many bamboo flute music studios that were growing and developing rapidly in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) region.

As the time goes by, bamboo flute music started to lose its existence inside the community of Timor Tengah Utara (TTU). There is currently only one bamboo flute music studio left among other studios in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) region, namely Taruna Kaimbauan Studio. The disappearance of its existence is influenced by the social changes in community as the owner of bamboo flute music.

This research was based on some previous researches but using different perspective. First is Mali (2021) in his writing titled "*Pembelajaran Ansambel Musik Suling Bambu pada Kegiatan Ekstrakurikuler di SMPN 1 Lamaknen, Belu, Nusa Tenggara Timur*". In his writing, it is explained about the bamboo flute music ensemble learning in extracurricular activities in a form of theories and practice for the student musical development. The main factor that influences the extracurricular

learning of bamboo flute music ensemble in SMPN 1 Lamaknen, Belu, NTT is in a form of internal factor, that is conducive learning condition as well as the existence of learning interaction that runs well and the external factor is that it is still influenced by the form of performance and students' performance.

Second is Apriadi (2018) in his writing titled "*Kreativitas Musik Senggol Tromol Semarang Dalam Konteks Perubahan Sosial Budaya*". This research discussed about Senggol Tromol music in Semarang. The results of this study explained that the social changes that occur in community also influence the music career journey of Senggol Tromol. It was then used by them to market their creations through digital music platform in order to continue their existence in community.

Third is Hanz (2017) in his writing titled "*Perubahan Kesenian Bongkel Dalam Konteks Perubahan Sosial Budaya*". This research discussed about Bongkel art in Banyumas. The results of this research explained that the form of Bongkel art performance undergoes some changes since the beginning of its creation until now that it has become performing art in Banyumas Regency because it is influenced by the social cultural changes in community.

Some previous researches were used in order to compare the similarities and differences as well as put the researchers in the different position that showing novelty of this research itself. The novelty of this research is in the material object used as well as the study used. Novelty in this research is the influence of social cultural changes of Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) community towards the development of bamboo flute music.

METHODS

The method used in this research was analytical qualitative method.

Bogdan (1975) defined qualitative research as research procedure that produces descriptive data in a form of written or spoken form from the people and behaviour that can be observed.

The research approach used in this study was interdisciplinary approach. The interdisciplinary studies are usually designed to comprehend or measure a research problem that is outside the study tradition of a scientific discipline, which is carried out in accordance to its use (Rohidi, 2011 : 65

). The researchers acted as the key instruments. The researchers directly went to the field, adapt with the local time and place in order to get accurate data as well as observe the phenomena in the field. This research was conducted in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. Data was collected through controlled observation, interview, and document study. Deeper interview was conducted with Mr. Constantinus Taus who is the studio owner and also a bamboo flute musician. The second informant is Mr Petrus Taus who is the local public figure in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) and also Mr. Simon P. Taus who is a young bamboo flute musician and already becomes bamboo flute music since his childhood.

The interviews were related to the existence of bamboo flute music as well as the changes of cultural elements in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. The document study was conducted to collect data regarding to the research objects, such as photos, scrapbook previous researches, and books related to the research objects.

The technique of data validity was based on the credibility criteria using the sources triangulation. Further, the sources were explained, categorized, and analyzed in order to draw the conclusion. The data analysis technique used the social changes theory, it started

from the data collection, data reduction, data presentation and data verification.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The social changes can not be seen from one side only. It is because one change can result in other sectors' changes. Social changes in community influence music career journey (Apriadi, 2018: 15).

Qualitative change is a change that occurs in the cultural parts which is previously unspecialized becoming culture that functions on the basis of specialized parts. Ritzer (2007: 118) explained that community is seen as a system where the whole social structure is integrated into one, each of which has different functions but it has related each other and creates consensus and social order as well as the whole elements will adapt each other towards the internal and external changes from the community.

Soekanto (2005 : 103) said that the social change is as a variation of ways of life that has been accepted, due to geographical conditions, material culture, population composition, ideology, and the existence of diffusion or new discoveries in community.

Syani (1995 : 83) said that a social change means a process that results in the different condition between the current time and the previous time, it can be a decline or a progress. Bungin (1994: 123) said that important things in social changes regarding to the aspects: changes in community mindset and behavior as well as changes as well as changes in material culture.

The Effect of Changes in Cultural Elements on the Existence of Bamboo Flute Music

The changes of cultural elements certainly bring impact for the humans' survival. The impact can be to the direction of progress or decline.

The changes that happen to the bamboo flute music art located in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency are influenced by some aspects that have been explained on the previous discussion, namely the knowledge system, the livelihood system, technology system and art. As it has been explained by the owner of Kaimbuan Studio in the interview, it was said that.

"If the past and present bamboo flute are the same, nothing will be different. But, the existence is so much different. Back then, it was almost every day we listened to the bamboo flute music, but now there is hardly anyone wh plays it again. It is just if there is any guests, we will practic and perform."

Generally, the shape of bamboo flute has not changed, starting from the tools and materials to make bamboo flute music, as well as the musical elements that shape it, while the changes of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency significantly happen to its existency in community.

Changes in Knowledge System

The changes in knowledge system are the cultural elements that become one of the factor causing the changes in the art of bamboo flute music. The changes in knowledge systme includes mindset and wider insight in seeing the developmentsthat happen outside the life of traditional community.

The changes in the knowledge system bring the changes into a decline for the art of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah tara (TTU) Regency. It is because the mindset of community that consider the traditional art as old and

outdated. The assumption that traditional art is only for the old people or people in the village has become one of the causes of the loss of bamboo flute music existence, particularly in community who already exposed from the modernization.

Changes in Livelihood System

The changes in livelihood system are also the cultural elements that also undergo the changes themselves so they influence the existence of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. The changes in community's livelihood system in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) happen in a complex way, it means that it is inseparable from other cultural elements that are related each other.

The livelihood of majority people in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) in the past was as farmers and gardening. The community's activities as farmers certainly result in the growing of traditional arts by utilizing the tools and materials surround them so that it was not surprising if there were various simple traditional arts. The community's activities as farmers or gardening with monotonous routine caused various creativity and needs of new things as well as entertainment to fill spare time.

The livelihood system in which majority of the people were farmers has changed and developed into government employees or office clerks. These changes certainly relate to other cultural elements, such as knowledge system and technology advance.

The people's direction is no longer as farmers to live and survive, but their mindset has changed and they believe that their descendants must be government employees because it is such prestigious and promising. Even though it has experienced a

significant change, but in some areas, these people are still working as farmers and gardening. In line with that statement, the local public figure has revealed it through his saying. The local public figure is Petrus Taus by saying

"In the past, almost of the people here worked as farmers, some of them gardened, and farmed. So, here in TTU, there were so many ricefields. There were also some people who concurrently being farmers and gardening. There were some people who were concurrently farming. While in the coastal area, some people worked as fishermen. But now, all of people are competing to be government officers. Meanwhile we the old generation have already not worked anymore, but our children and grandchildren are competing to be government officers cause of its prestige."

The changes of the livelihood system in community have certainly impacted on the existence of bamboo flute music. Society's activities as teachers or officers have limited their time to do other things at home. The long and complicated process of making bamboo flute instruments have become a trigger of the loss of community's interest beside there are some changes in behaviour, mindset, and life styles of modern community who prefer practical things and tend to be consumptive.

Changes in Technology System

The changes in technology system are cultural elements that influence the existence of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. The advancing technology has brought the changes into progress. The advance technology should bring any progress to the existence of bamboo flute music. It can happen because community can utilize technology as a

platform to spread and introduce bamboo flute music in broader audience.

The thing that happened in Timor Tengah Utara Regency was a decline. This is because the advance technology has impacted on the mindset and behavior of the people, particularly the young generation who depends on smartphone.

The dependency towards smartphone or handphone has become the cause of abandoned bamboo flute music art. It is not only experienced by the young generation but also the old generation, so it is not surprising if they choose samrtphone to enjoy their spare time.

In line with the statements above, they are strengthen by the result of the interview that was conducted by the researchers with Petrus Taus who is the local public figure in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency. It was said that:

"Now, everything is sophisticated and advance, time has changed. Almost all of people have mobile phone. The current communication is different with the past, now everyone is using WA group. Everyone is already using mobile phone."

Changes in Arts Elements

Arts are cultural elemet that also change. The changes of arts elements have influenced the existence of bamboo flute music for people in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU). The changes that occur in arts can not be separated from other cultural elements, so cause and effect occured is related to each other.

The decline of traditional arts is caused by the entry of the modern arts that are also caused by the advance technology and easy-access of internet. Besides the advance technology, the mindset and behavior also become the triggers of the cultural elements changes, namely arts.

According to previous ideas, the bamboo flute music art in Timor Tengah Utara has declined. This is because the community's interest towards the moders arts has increased rapidly, as well as their mindset particularly young generation that think the traditional arts considered as old and outdated. This thought

has become one main factor of the disappearing traditional arts.

The entry of modern arts including the use of modern sophisticated music instruments can rapidly replace the position of traditional arts, one of them is bamboo flute music. The use of modern music instruments have been considered more effective and efficient, because of its easy use, it does not take much time to make it manually, as well as it does not spend much place or space. These have become reasons behind the action of replacing the traditional music arts.

In one music instrument, for example, a keyboard with its sophistication can play music resembling the sound of angklung, gamelan, gong, as well as other traditional music instruments in entire Nusantara. When there is an event and a traditional nuance is needed, the keyboard players can play their instrument based on the desired nuance.

Based on those reasons, the entry of modern arts have declined the existence of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) Regency.

Based on the discussion above, it can be concluded that the changes in cultural elements, such as knowledge system, livelihood system, technology system and arts really influence the existence of bamboo flute music in Timor Tengah Utara Regency. Those changes of cultural elements have have brought a setback effect on the existence of bamboo flute music.

CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis and discussion above, it can be concluded that the changes of cultural elements influencing the development of bamboo flute music for community in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU) are the cultural elements of knowledge system, livelihood system, technology system, and arts. The changes of cultural elements have brought a setback effect on the bamboo flute music for community in Timor Tengah Utara (TTU).

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