
Comparative Study: Traditional Form Of The Game Sepak Rago The Communities Of Kopah And West Sumatra

Nova Reza Wulandari

SMKN 1 Benai, Kec. Benai, Kab. Kuantan Singingi, Prov. Riau

Email: novareza32@gmail.com



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Abstract. *This research is motivated by the traditional game, namely Sepak Rago, which is a game that has existed for a long time and is found in several regions in Indonesia. such as Minangkabau and Riau, especially Kenegerian Kopah, Kuantan Singingi Regency. In Minangkabau this game is known as Sipak Rago, while in Kenegerian Kopah it is Sepak Rago Tinggi. From these two areas, there are several differentiating aspects of this game. This research was carried out with the aim of revealing comparisons of game forms. The research method used is descriptive-qualitative. The object of research is the traditional game Sepak Rago in the Minangkabau community and the Kenegerian Kopah community. The types of data used are primary and secondary data, data collection techniques namely observation and documentation, as well as data analysis techniques that combine and collect all the data obtained and then checked, filtered until the data becomes valid. The results of this research concluded that this form of traditional game in Minangkabau and Kenegerian Kopah has several differentiating aspects, namely technique, player members, properties and other supporting elements in the Sepak Rago game in the region. Even so, this traditional game is an asset that must be preserved and passed on to future generations. This aims to ensure that future generations do not easily abandon the traditions and culture of their region. The existence of aspects that differentiate traditional games can also be an important thing to show people's identity through culture and traditions through traditional games.*

Keywords: *Traditional Games, Form Comparison, Sepak Rago.*

INTRODUCTION

Culture and traditions are important things that must be preserved and maintained. This can provide education and knowledge to the community by carrying out activities to preserve developing cultural values. One of them is by carrying out traditional game activities. If we look at the roots of the word, traditional games are nothing more than activities regulated by game rules which are inherited from previous generations and carried out by humans with the aim of gaining joy.

Traditional games are a nation's cultural assets that have noble values that can be passed on to the younger generation. Traditional games are play activities that contain good and useful values. Traditional games can be considered as a reflection of the traditional culture of society (Iswinarti, 2016). Traditional games are a legacy passed down from generation to generation that have various functions and messages behind them, symbolic meanings behind the movements, words and tools used. The nature or characteristics of traditional games are that they are old, their origins are unknown, who the creator is and where they come from. It is usually spread by word of mouth and sometimes changes name or form even though the basics are the same. One example of a traditional game that reflects this is the traditional game Sepak Raga (Mulyana, et al: 2019).

The traditional game Sepak Raga was played during the era of the Sriwijaya, Majapahit and Gowa Kingdoms. In several areas on the island of Sumatra, the traditional game Sepak Raga is popular and is played in various circles of society. This traditional game is still found and played by the Minangkabau and Kuantan Singingi people, especially Kenegerian Kopah, which is known as Sepak Rago. (Hanif AS, 2021). If you look at the form, traditional games between these two regions have the same playing techniques, but there are several different aspects to the game. What is the differentiating substance in this game lies in the roles in this game. In the traditional game Sepak Rago in Minangkabau society, it only consists of a number of players. Meanwhile, the traditional game Sepak Rago in the Kenegerian Kopah community consists of several players, a lady-in-waiting, and several people who accompany the game's music.

Sepak Rago in the Minang language is called Sipak Rago, which is a traditional game that developed in Minangkabau. However, in recent years the traditional game Sipak Rago has rarely been played. There are young people today, especially in the Minangkabau area, who don't know what Sipak Rago is, some even think that the game of Sipak Rago is the same as the game of sepak takraw. This is caused by advances and developments in technology, especially in entertainment media such as online games and the like, which makes the younger generation seem to have abandoned these traditional games, even though Sipak Rago is one of the nagari children's game cultures which is full of benefits (Budiman, et al. 2021:1).

A Minangkabau humanist, Mak Katik, stated that Sipak Rago is a game that was developed from the silek (silat) movement. So that the movements in the game pattern feel aesthetic and dynamic. The traditional game Sipak Rago is full of philosophy of life, various messages, manners, morals and teachings of wise and wise behavior (Suardi, et al. 2022:21).

This is different from the traditional game Sepak Rago in Kenegerian Kopah, Kuantan Singingi Regency, where this game is known as Sepak Rago Tinggi. In the Kenegerian Kopah community, this game is still popular and loved by the younger generation. This happens because in several villages and sub-districts in Kuantan Singingi, the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi is only found in Kenegerian Kopah. Therefore, the people of Kenegerian Kopah are still very enthusiastic about this game.

It's not just the form and supporting aspects that exist in this game, other authors also discuss the Sepak Rago game in different studies, namely discussing Sepak Rago in graphic works of art. This is of course a unique and new discovery. The existing facts about the traditional game Sepak Rago are then translated into a work of graphic art using serigraphy techniques. This means that the traditional game Sepak Rago is very important to preserve and develop so that it remains alive among the supporting community (Budiman, et al. 2021:2).

This can also support community efforts to minimize the negative impacts of globalization so that the traditional game Sepak Rago does not just disappear. Therefore, there is a need for successors to the various cultures and traditions that we have had until now. Because, what has been inherited by our elders and ancestors is our identity and can become an asset for our region. Other authors also examine it from a different perspective, namely regarding the values contained in this traditional game. It was explained that the values in traditional games are important things that can be started by cultivating good deeds in everyday life. Getting used to values, norms and customs through traditional games will build a society that has a sense of social solidarity (Rianto, et al. 2021:122).

In this regard (Septian A, et al. 2021:2) also explains that in essence traditional games are played in groups, this can form personal character with a spirit of leadership, togetherness and a high social spirit. Players meet certain criteria, some must have dexterity, physical strength, intelligence, ingenuity, speed, accuracy, creativity and imagination, courage and responsibility. Based on existing reviews, this research was conducted with the aim of describing a comparison of the forms of traditional games that exist in the Minangkabau community with those in Kenegrian Kopah. The games from these two regions have several forms and aspects that differentiate them.

METHOD

This research was carried out by applying descriptive qualitative research methods. The basis of qualitative research is the assumption that reality has multiple, unified and changing dimensions (Sudjana, et al. 2001:7). The main focus of this research is to describe the comparison of traditional game forms that exist in the Minangkabau community and the Kenegerian Kopah community. Moleong conveyed that qualitative methods are provisions in research that obtain descriptive data in the form of written and spoken words through the characters and objects studied (1988:3).

The object of research is the traditional game Sepak Rago in the Minangkabau community and the Kenegerian Kopah community. Regarding this research, the author has the role of reviewer, data collector, analysis with the aim of exploring in detail the object being studied so as to obtain accurate results. The types of data used are primary data and secondary data, as well as data collection techniques, namely observation and documentation, finally the data analysis technique which combines also collects all the data that has been obtained and then checks, filters it until the data becomes valid.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

As a traditional game that is also found in many other regions, the form and even the name of the Sepak Rago game in each region also has differences. This difference is found in the Minangkabau area and in Kenegerian Kopah, Kuantan Singingi Regency.

1. Traditional Game of Sepak Rago

Traditional games are an activity that can be done using simple equipment that is eternal in the surrounding environment (Suswandari, 2017). Traditional games are a type of playing activity that has regional characteristics which is usually done to find entertainment and utilize free time. One example of a traditional game is Sepak Rago. We can find the traditional game Sepak Rago in a number of regions in Indonesia. We are familiar with this game. The traditional game of Sepak Rago is actually similar to the game of Sepak Takraw, only the difference lies in the use of a net that is stretched across the Sepak Takraw field, just like a badminton court. Meanwhile, the Rago soccer field does not use nets (Pratama, 2019).

The players stand facing each other in a circle. The size of the circle depends on the number of players. The more players, the larger the circle diameter, and vice versa, the fewer players, the smaller the circle diameter. There is no standard assessment in this game, because this game is not contested, there is only an assessment of the player's skill in playing the ball so that the ball being played does not fall to the ground. The traditional game Sepak Rago has long lived and developed in several regions, for example in Minangkabau and Kenegerian Kopah, Kuantan Singingi Regency. Even though they both have the same traditional game, there are several different aspects of the traditional game Sepak Rago in the two regions.

2. The traditional form of the game Sepak Rago in Minangkabau society

We can find the traditional game Sepak Rago in Minangkabau, where in Minangkabau this game is better known as Sipak Rago. This game is still played but is rarely found. The development of Sipak Rago in Minangkabau is in the city of Padang, spread across several sub-districts, including in the Koto Tangah sub-district, Padang city, there are around 10 Sipak Rago associations.

Datuak Amputiah, who is a community figure in Kenagarian Koto Tangah, stated that initially the traditional game Sipak Rago was previously a game played by kings in an event to compete for a place of honor in the kingdom, which has now turned into a folk game that can be played by the people. anyone without exception, both young and old (Septian A, et al. 2015:3).

The traditional game Sipak Rago used to start with looking for rattan materials together. Once obtained, the rattan is cleaned and processed to obtain good rattan skin. The processed rattan skin is then woven together in such a way as to form a ball like a takraw ball. We try to make the webbing as neat and strong as possible so that it doesn't come off easily and break when kicked/kicked. Sipak Rago is able to reflect the spirit of mutual cooperation, togetherness, determination to carry out and achieve something good.

Nasrul Mansur Rajo Sampono stated that the rago ball is a symbol of the human body. The rago ball which consists of two layers symbolizes the human body which consists of physical and spiritual. Through this traditional game, a person can realize that living in society you cannot live alone, all decisions are taken based on mutual consensus and deliberation. In essence, traditional games help grow sportsmanship, train concentration and build high levels of togetherness (Suardi, et al. 2021).

This game is played by 5 to 10 people by forming a circle in an open field, where the rago ball is played using the feet with certain techniques and arts, so that the ball moves from one player to another without dropping the ball to the ground. (Hanif AS, 2021). A round ball made from woven rattan material, of course the surface is not flat. But that is the job of the player who is holding or receiving the ball, the player tries to tame the ball before passing it to another player. If the ball passes wildly, there could be a reduction in the score in the game. Efforts to control wild (wild) balls and provide tame (controlled) ball passes have meaning and meaning that can be used as a lesson in acting and behaving in life, especially in social interactions.

The rules in the Sipak Rago game are quite easy, namely by passing it from one player to another so that the ball does not touch the ground, if it touches the ground the game will be stopped and started again.

There is no standard assessment in this game because this game is not contested, only the assessment in this game is carried out on the technique and style of kicking the ball which is called *renten*.

The clothes worn by Sipak Rago players are the clothes usually worn in silat performances, wearing all black clothes with side cloths and headbands. This game is usually played in the afternoon or also called *parintang*. It is played with the aim of eliminating boredom from busy daily activities and is done together with friends, relatives or the local community. This can reflect the solidarity, loyalty of the group and don't forget to build ties of brotherhood and friendship.

However, this traditional game is rarely seen. Meanwhile, only at certain times and events that are driven or only become a series of events that are no longer independent. In fact, this traditional pamenan (game) for nagari children was previously played and acted out spontaneously. These traditional games have been replaced by high-tech games such as online games. Children, teenagers, adults and even the elderly are more comfortable staying in front of a monitor screen, notebook, cellphone connected to the internet until they lose track of time. The traditional game Sipak Rago actually also contains many social values, including tolerance between players, cooperation, solidarity, mutual respect, not being selfish and not giving up easily. Games that are played together with various characters must also respect each other between the players.



Figure 1. Sipak Rago game in Minangkabau (google.com)



Figure 2. Clothing in the Sipak Rago game in Minangkabau (like silek clothing)



Figure 3. Location of the traditional game Sipak Rago in Minangkabau (google.com)

3. The traditional form of the game Sepak Rago in the Kenegerian Kopah Community

The traditional game Sepak Rago is also found in one of the districts in Riau, namely Kuantan Singingi district, precisely in Kenegerian Kopah. This game is known as Sepak Rago Tinggi. The traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi is a type of traditional game that has been played since ancient times by our ancestors. Abdur Rauf, ninik mamak Kenegerian Kopah, said that in the history of its initial development, this tradition has been passed down from generation to generation and has been passed down to the current generation. According to him, the background to the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi is based on an agreement in the discussions of the Kenegerian Kopah indigenous community in the past.

The traditional game of Sepak Rago Tinggi is thought to have existed since 1883 and some sources even say that Sepak Rago Tinggi originated from the Malacca Sultanate around the 15th century AD. At that time, Sepak Rago Tinggi was played only by the royal family, there is also a history of Sepak Rago Tinggi being a game against crime. Previously, the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi was played by traditional leaders, consisting of representatives from each tribe in Kenegerian Kopah. However, currently the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi is played by all levels of society from various age groups, from children, teenagers to the elderly.

In practice, the traditional game of Sepak Rago Tinggi is the same as the game of Sipak Rago in Minangkabau, which is played by forming a circle. However, there are several aspects that differentiate it. There are 7 to 11 High Rago Football players, usually the 4 most skilled people are sent from each tribe. The players consist of *Sumandan* (who kicks the first ball) and *Fiance* (who receives the next ball). However, in this game, right at the top of the middle of the circle, an umbrella is placed or hung upside down at a height of 10 to 15 meters from the ground. The umbrella functions as a target for Rago Tinggi's ball or a place to put the ball in. The Rago Tinggi ball itself is made from special rattan by first soaking the rattan in water, then splitting it into 12 pieces. The High Rago ball is smaller than the Takraw ball. The High Rago Ball has 8 holes in the shape of a pentagon.

Before the game of Sepak Rago Tinggi starts, the players are required to purify themselves by taking ablution, after which the new players enter the arena/field. The player immediately throws the Sepak Rago Tinggi to another player. The person who kicked the ball first was called *Sumandan*. The player who receives the Rago Tinggi ball will take the Rago Tinggi ball with his right foot and his movements resemble martial arts movements. After the Rago Tinggi ball is kicked by *Sumandan*, the second player will continue, the next player who receives the ball is called *Tunangan*. The position between the players is facing each other, the *Tunangan* will try to put the ball into the umbrella. Apart from that, *Fiancé* must also try to play the ball so that the ball is always in the air and as much as possible does not let it fall to the ground. The *Tunangan* who gets the ball will shout or make a sound with the words "tabiak" followed by a movement of the right hand pointing upwards parallel to the Rago Tinggi ball. The Sepak Rago Tinggi must fall to the right of the ball receiver.

If one of the players is tired or injured, that player is rested. Then the player is invited by a girl to the game arena, where the girl is called Dayang. The Dayang will invite the players to sit while eating betel or give them a cigarette provided by the Dayang. Usually Dayang is the most beautiful virgin or girl in Kenegerian Kopah.

Apart from that, the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi is played accompanied by accompanying music, namely rarak godang (a type of traditional music native to Kopah) and added to the tune of ogung godang with occasional blows. The clothes worn by the players are traditional Malay clothes complete with side cloths and wearing peci. This game is played in front of the traditional hall or godang house in Kenegerian Kopah or it can also be played in an open field. Game times are usually held at certain times such as the rice harvest season, Islamic holidays such as Eid al-Fitr in the afternoon. However, now this game has even become a routine activity for the Kopah community to fill their free time in the afternoon, some even play this game according to a predetermined schedule. There are several elements contained in the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi, including: 1) Establishing a very strong relationship between players, 2) Teachings of very high morals, and 3) A feeling of gratitude in every situation and establishing healthy cooperation and competition in society.



Figure 4. Representatives of the players and clothing worn in the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi in Kenegerian Kopah



Figure 5. Sepak Rago Tinggi players purify (ablution) before starting to play (google.com)



Figure 6. Umbrella hanging as a ball target
(google.com)



Figure 7. Location of the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi in Kenerian Kopah
(in field)
(google.com)



Figure 8. Position of the player's hand when taking the ball
(google.com)



Figure 9. A Dayang carrying out tasks
(google.com)



Figure 10. Musical accompaniment players in the traditional game Sepak Rago Tinggi in Kenegerian Kopah
(google.com)

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

The traditional games of Sipak Rago in Minangkabau and Sepak Rago Tinggi in Kenegerian Kopah are the heritage of the area. The traditional game of Sipak Rago in Minangkabau is played by forming a circle, the ball is passed and must not fall to the ground. Played by 5 to 10 players wearing clothes like silat clothes. Carried out in an open field, usually in the afternoon to fill free time. Meanwhile, Sepak Rago Tinggi in Kenegerian Kopah is also played by forming a circle with 7 to 11 players. Wearing complete Malay clothing and a cap on his head. In the middle of the field, an umbrella is placed at a height of 10 to 15 meters for throwing the ball. Apart from that, there is a Dayang whose job is to treat injured players. This game is also accompanied by accompanying music, namely rarak. The traditional game of Sepak Rago Tinggi is usually held in front of the godang house or traditional hall or open field, in the afternoon or even held on certain days such as the harvest season and Islamic holidays such as Eid al-Fitr. Even though there are differences between these two games in several aspects, this traditional game is an asset that must be preserved and passed on to future generations. This aims to ensure that the next generation of young people do not easily abandon the traditions and culture of their respective regions. The existence of aspects that differentiate traditional games can also be an important thing to show people's identity through culture and traditions through traditional games.

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