**Form, Function, And Meaning of Fasade Ornament Design Malay Traditional Balai Building, Riau Province In Pekanbaru.**

Nofiyanti¹, Heldi²

¹Social Science Education, Universitas Negeri Padang, Indonesia
Email: nofiyanti.spd@gmail.com

²Sociology of Education, Universitas Negeri Padang, Indonesia

---

**Abstract.** The Riau Malay Traditional Hall building is a form of culture in the form of objects inherited by previous generations that still exist today. Where the Malay Traditional Hall building has become a symbol of Malay culture and also shows how the arts and creativity of the Malay community are in the field of ornamental design. The purpose of this research is to increase public understanding, especially the younger generation of Malays regarding the form, function, and meaning of the existing ornament designs at the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. With the increasing understanding of the community, especially the younger generation, it is expected to be able to properly preserve Malay culture, namely the Traditional Hall and its ornamental designs. The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative with sampling technique using purposive sampling. The results of this study are successful in describing and explaining how the forms of ornamental designs in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building have three types of motifs, namely animal, plant, and geometric shapes. The function of the ornamental design in addition to beauty also has a symbolic function and usability function. Furthermore, there is also meaning in each ornament design that has the meaning of life and diversity in the Riau Malay community. Therefore, it is very important to understand the form, function, and meaning of the ornament design in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building so that it can continue to maintain the preservation of ornament making and also the traditional Balai owned.

**Keywords:** Malay traditional hall, Form, Function, Meaning of Ornament Design

---

**INTRODUCTION**

Culture is the result of thoughts that are used as guidelines by today's society that have been going on for a long time and are passed on to the next generation. Culture is divided into two, namely culture in the form of objects and non-objects. Culture in the form of objects in the form of traditional buildings, ornaments, musical instruments, and other visible relics, while non-object culture can be in the form of traditions, gurindam, poetry, and the like. In this research, a description of culture in the form of objects is carried out, namely how the form, function, and meaning of the Riau Malay Customary Hall ornament. So that this description can describe how the content contained in the ornaments of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall.

In today's development, many people, especially the younger generation, do not understand the form, function, and meaning contained in the design of ornaments in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building. With a lack of understanding of society, especially the younger generation, is a serious problem because it will have an impact on cultural preservation in the future. With a lack of cultural preservation, this culture will fade and even disappear. Therefore it is very important to understand the form, function and meaning of the Nofiyantia, Heldib,* a Master Student (S2) Social Science Education, Universitas Negeri Padang, Air...
Tawar, Padang, 25171, Indonesia bDepartment of Sociology Education, Air Tawar, Padang, 25171, Indonesia *nofiyanti.spd@gmail.com ornament designs at the Riau Malay Customary Hall.

The increasing understanding of the community regarding the form, function, and meaning related to the design of the Riau Malay Customary Hall ornament is a condition that this research wants to realize. As according to Fitriana, (2019: 2) states that the ideal condition related to people's understanding of a problem is when people's understanding increases in applying something that has been described, so that it can be realized in everyday life.

The method used in this research is descriptive qualitative. With a Qualitative Descriptive description will be carried out regarding the form, function, and meaning contained in the ornamental design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building. The purpose of this research is to increase public understanding, especially the younger generation regarding the form, function, and meaning of the ornament design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. With a good understanding of the form, function, and meaning of the design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall ornament, it is hoped that it can increase the sense of love and preservation of regional culture. The limitation of the problem in this study is that the research is focused on discussing the form, function, and meaning of the ornament design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building. The research was conducted from June 2022 to November 2022 by using a purposive sampling technique as a sample

METHOD

This research is qualitative, because in this study a description of the problems studied was carried out regarding the form, function, and meaning of the ornaments in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. Qualitative research can make it easier for researchers to describe and explore problem information in detail, so that they can provide better explanations to readers. As according to Febiani, et al., (2022: 1938) stated that qualitative research helps in describing problems based on data obtained from the field, both from direct observation, interviews, and documentation carried out.

This research is a socio-cultural research conducted in Pekanbaru City, Riau Province by describing the ornaments at the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. In this study, it will be explained how the form, function, and meaning of the ornamental design found in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building. In this study, the purposive sampling method was used as a sampling method, because using purposive sampling could facilitate researchers in collecting research data. As according to Priyono, (2008: 118) states that by using purposive sampling, researchers can determine for themselves how the data and research samples will be used in accordance with research needs. There are two data used in this research, namely primary data and secondary data. Primary data was obtained based on direct surveys and interviews, while secondary data was obtained from a study of research-related data.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Result

This research succeeded in deciphering the form, function, and meaning contained in the ornament design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. The main discussion in this study is to describe to the general public, especially the younger generation, in order to understand the form, function, and meaning of the ornament design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall. This is done to increase public awareness in maintaining and preserving regional culture, especially the Riau Malay Traditional Hall.

Discussion.

[1] Forms of Traditional Hall Building Ornament Designs Riau Malay

Based on the results of direct observations and interviews that have been conducted at the research location, it is known that in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru there are three types of ornamental motifs. These motifs are animal-shaped motif ornaments, plant-shaped motif ornaments, and geometric-shaped motif ornaments. Where in each type of ornamental motif there is also a division that resembles the motif used. This is in accordance with the opinion of Juliana and Zahrani (2019: 14) who say that an ornament is a product that is deliberately made to be used as decoration and has various types of motifs originating from the natural surroundings.
a. Ornament Patterned in Animal Form

There are several types of animal-patterned ornaments in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, including dragon-patterned ornaments, hanging bee-patterned ornaments, and evening duck-patterned ornaments. Based on the observations of researchers regarding animal-patterned ornaments in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, it can be seen that the shape of each ornament highly displays aesthetic value, according to the type of carving, the surface of the carving, and the type of material used is also very good. According to Juliana and Zahrani (2019: 17) it is stated that ornaments with animal shapes commonly used in Riau Malay building ornaments include ornaments originating from poultry, wild animals, reptiles, and aquatic animals. However, in the ornaments of the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, the type used does not cover all the motifs conveyed by Juliana and Zahrani, because each region will choose for itself which motifs will be made in accordance with the functions and meanings contained in the carved ornaments.

b. Ornament Patterned in Plant Form

There are several types of plant-patterned ornaments in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building, including awat larat-patterned ornaments, tiered clove flower-patterned ornaments, salembayung-patterned ornaments, splint-patterned ornaments, and unbroken tiles patterned ornaments. According to Juliana and Zahrani (2019: 16) related to plant-patterned ornaments in Riau Malay buildings are usually dominated by floral motifs, and have a good color. Along with the times, nowadays there are many types of plant-patterned ornaments in many forms. The application of the form of ornamental motifs used in a building in Malay is based on the selection by traditional leaders according to the expected meaning.

c. Ornament Patterned in Geometric Form

Based on the observations of researchers on ornaments with geometric shapes in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, it has undergone changes from time to time. This is because the development of science and technology also affects how the shape of the ornaments are produced. So that the results of the ornaments that are formed are also getting better. According to research conducted by Juliana and Zahrani (2019: 26), it is stated that ornaments can also be applied to other objects, one of which is writing instruments, in clothing media, and also in bag jewelry

[2] The Function of Traditional Hall Ornament

Design Riau Malay The function of the ornament design of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall in general is as a decoration to beautify the building and the contents of the building. But more specifically, according to the classification of the type of ornament, it certainly has a more detailed function. Based on the researcher's observations at the research site, the function of various ornaments, both animal motifs, plant motifs, and geometric patterns contain messages in them as a medium for conveying the meaning of the ornaments made.


The ornament designs of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building all have a good meaning in life, especially in coexistence. The meaning contained in each type of ornamental motif, be it animal, plant and geometric motifs, is a symbol of Riau Malay culture which symbolizes family, might of the Malay kingdom, life that loves one another, and shows the honor of the Malay people. As according to Eizzi, et al., (2021: 286) that in a work of art contains different meanings according to the form produced, based on the material, and the area of production.

Based on the researcher's observations regarding how the existing ornament designs at the Riau Malay Traditional Hall in Pekanbaru, all forms and types of ornaments both contain functional meanings and symbolic meanings. The meaning of the function of the ornament can be seen from the use for which the
ornament is attached to the building, while the symbolic meaning can be seen from the meaning or message implied through the ornament.

CONCLUSIONS

Based on the results of the research that has been done, the following conclusions can be drawn:

1. The design of the ornaments on the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru has three types of motifs, namely animal-shaped ornaments, plant-shaped ornaments, and geometric-shaped ornaments. Where in each type of motif there is also a division, the first is the animal-shaped motif in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, there are three, namely the dragon animal motif, the hanging bee animal motif, and the evening duck motif. Second, there are five divisions regarding motifs in the form of plants, namely motifs in the form of larat cloud buds, tiered clove flowers, salembayung, splints, and unbroken tiles. The third type of motif is a geometric shape motif, namely the violin trellis motif. Based on the observations that have been made, it can be seen that the shape of each type of ornament in the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru is very thick with Malay culture and has a beautiful shape.

2. The function of the ornamental design in the Riau Malay traditional hall building in general is as a decoration to beautify the shape of the building. However, there are also special functions possessed by each type of ornament, for example as an identity or symbol of Malay culture, as a medium for conveying Malay proverb messages, as building fences both inside and outside the house, and there are also those that function as ventilation for the entry and exit of air into the room. Ornament.

3. There are two meanings contained in the ornaments of the Riau Malay Customary Hall building in Pekanbaru, namely symbolic meaning and meaning that contains a philosophy of life. As a symbolic meaning, the ornament of the Riau Malay Customary Hall building is a symbol of culture, art, and honor or degree of the Riau Malay community. While the meaning of the ornaments of the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building contains a philosophy of life, namely in the ornament there is a meaning to love one another, always maintain cohesiveness, always be confident, love among brothers and sisters, and harmony in the household.

This research is only focused on discussing the form, function, and meaning of the ornament design in the Riau Malay Traditional Hall building. So that generalizations and comparisons between the two traditional halls can be carried out and provide additional learning to the reader.

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

Acknowledge anyone who has helped you with the study, including: Researchers who supplied materials, reagents, or computer programs; anyone who helped with the writing or English, or offered critical comments about the content, or anyone who provided technical help. State why people have been acknowledged and ask their permission. Acknowledge sources of funding, including any grant or reference numbers. Please avoid apologize for doing a poor job of presenting the manuscript.

REFERENCES


