

# Barongan As Media For The Conservation Of Ethical Value In Education

Riris Setyo Sundari, Tjetjep Rohendi Rohidi, Suminto A. Sayuti, Hartono

**Abstract:** Art has entered the education area and has its own function for the education. Art education aims to provide students with experience and knowledge of art. Art as one of the cultural products that was born from the community, of course, contains the values held by the community, one of which is ethical values. In the world of Education, through the experience gained in Education, it is expected that the ethical values in the barongan show can be transferred to the younger generation so that value conservation can occur. The purpose of this study was to determine the value conservation process in education through Barongan. The results showed that the process of value conservation occurred at the stages of appreciation and expression in art education. Ethical values that appear in barongan performances are divided into two, namely positive ethics and negative ethics. Art education provides knowledge for students to be able to take positive ethics as an example in everyday life, and know the negative ethics that must be avoided in life. The positive ethics that appears in barongan art is the character of barongan characters who are willing to sacrifice to help others. Positive ethical values also appear in the performance process such as politeness and mutual cooperation. The negative ethics that appears in the barongan show is the character likes to disturb other people who emerge from the animal characters as a symbol of the bathara kala. In art education, students are given the knowledge and reinforcement that this negative ethic needs to be avoided in life.

## 1. INTRODUCTION

Art has entered education area and has its own function for the world of education. Art education aims to: (1) gain experience of art in the form of experience of appreciation of art and experience of artistic expression, (2) gain knowledge of art, for example art theory, art history, art criticism, etc. [1]. The experience of art gained by students, both experiences of appreciation and expression of art, is very much needed for students. Through appreciation experiences, students can get the opportunity to add reference art for themselves, add aesthetic sensitivity, and can also help students to get to know the arts that are around them. The experience of artistic expression gained by students through art education can be a medium for students to express their ideas, ideas and feelings through a variety of media. It can also help to develop students' right and left brains. Barongan Arts is one of the arts owned by the community, especially the coast of Java. Barongan Arts is part of the lifestyle and beliefs of the coastal communities of Java. Barongan art survives side by side with the daily life of its owner as entertainment and ritual. Soedarsono said that broadly speaking, ritual performing arts have distinctive characteristics, namely: (1) needed selected exhibition venues, (2) necessary selection of days and times; (3) the selected player is needed; (4) a set of offerings is needed; (5) goals are more important than aesthetically pleasing; (6) typical clothing is needed [2]. Barongan art is a traditional art whose existence is often juxtaposed with ritual ceremonies and sacredness. Barongan is a totem animal that lives and develops in society. Barongan is lion-mask performance art.[3] Barongan Arts is one form of traditional performing arts that still survives. Hausser said that art,

including also performing arts, was divided into four strata, namely the art of the cultural elite (classical art) folk art (popular arts), pop art (urban art), and mass art (entertainment industry) . [4] Barongan Art as a form of traditional art that lives side by side with society, has ethical values contained in the performance process. Javanese ethics according to Magnis-Suseno is the overall norms and judgments used by Javanese people to find out how Javanese should live their lives [5]. Endraswara also stated that ethics is part of the philosophy of axiology. Life must coexist with others, so that life fulfills its function, then it is framed with ethics. The ethics in question encompasses everything from Javanese people as members of their families, communities, and countries. Ethics in Javanese culture can be said to be truly governing people's lives. Various kinds of rules appear in the procedures of Javanese society [6].

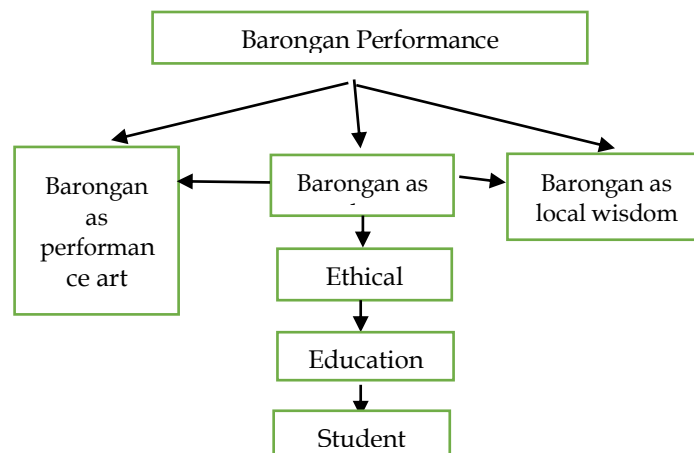


Fig. 1. Architecture of ethical values in Barongan Performance

## 2 METHOD

This research is qualitative research. A qualitative approach is used considering the data that will be revealed in this study are phenomena that occur in the field, and revealed using descriptive words the same as in the opinion of Creswell who

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said "qualitative research present information in text or image form" [7]. Therefore, qualitative research is considered more appropriate for revealing existing phenomena in more depth. The target in this study was Barongan Kusumojoyo art in Demak Regency. Data collection techniques in this study used observation, interview, and document study techniques. Observation techniques are conducted to observe the performance process and the phenomena that occur in the field during the research. The interview technique is used to gather information from the sources needed. While document studies are used to collect documents from the field that have to do with research. The data validity technique carried out in this study was source triangulation and technical triangulation. In addition, the extension of the observation was also used to validate the data in this study. While the data analysis techniques used in this study are data reduction, data presentation, and drawing conclusions [8].

### 3 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Barongan Art is one of the traditional art that Javanese people have. Traditional art as part of traditional culture is a means used to express a sense of beauty from within the human soul [9]. Barongan is a form of ritual art that is related to the belief in totemism, namely the belief in four-legged animals that have the power to protect.[10]. Barongan is a cultural product that is closely related to value education in the community. Education and culture are something that can not be avoided in everyday life, because culture is a unified and comprehensive whole in a society, and education is a basic need for every individual in society. [11] As a cultural product, Barongan art has the values contained in the performance process. These values are the ancestral inheritance that the old generations want to be inherited from generation to generation. This value exists and is inherited as a characteristic and also a guide for the next generation to behave, think, and act. One of the values contained in Barongan art is ethical value. Barongan Art is not just a show that is merely entertainment, but also as a guide for the younger generation how to be a good person, in addition to being a differentiator from other communities. Ethical values that appear in barongan performances are:

- Positive ethical values.

Barongan is a dramatical art consisting of dance, music, art and drama. Barongan was born and developed with the community owner. Barongan has several functions, including one of them is spiritual. The understanding of magical power can be understood as a construction of community expression [12]. Positive ethics in the Barongan show appears in the characters played by the barongan characters. In the show, the barongan character is told as a symbol of kindness that can eliminate some things that are not good. In the original story, the thing that is not good is the bathara kala. But in the process of development, art groups innovate their performances. The figure of the bathara kala develops into animal figures such as tigers, dragons, or even figures whose existence is trusted by the public such as the devil. That happen because art is a process of creativity, taste, and intention on patterns of human behavior that are manifested as environmental conditions and the demands of the times [14] Positive ethics that appear in the barongan character is willing to sacrifice to help others. In the barongan performance, the barongan figure is fought to defeat the bathara kala in the form of tigers, dragons, and also demons.

It is told, bathara kala want to eat certain children who in Javanese belief, the childs must be cleansed or "diruwat". Barongan was presented to clean the children so they would not fall prey to the bathara kala.



*Fig 2. Barongan eats Bathara Kala*

Positive ethics also appears in the performance process such as courtesy and mutual cooperation. The value of courtesy appears in music players who sit neatly behind the gamelan, respecting the gamelan as an ancestral heritage. The next value that appears in the performance process is mutual cooperation. The value of mutual cooperation can be seen throughout the performance. Barongan performances will not be carried out by individuals. For this reason, we need mutual cooperation and the ability to work in teams to be able to display barongan performances well.

- Negatif ethics value

In addition to positive ethics, barongan also contains negative ethics. This negative ethics that we need to convey to students so that it can be avoided. Submission of negative ethics is necessary so that students can distinguish between what is good and what is bad. Negative ethics appear in the character of bathara kala that always disturbing people and looking for humans to become prey.



*Fig 2. Barongan Performance*



### The Process of Value Conservation

We all know that art is one of the basic human needs. It is believed that no matter simple one's life is, they will keep seeking and using the aesthetic aspects of life through art in the middle of their struggle to keep their primary needs [15]. For this reason, now art has entered the education area. In addition, students must also be inculcated about cultural awareness, because Indonesia has a diverse culture. This cultural diversity with various characters also proved to be a threat of division due to lack of awareness about the meaning of this diversity [16]. The process of conservation of ethical values in art education occurs in two things, namely in the process of appreciation and expression. In the process of appreciation, students enjoy barongan performances which are one of the traditional arts passed on by their ancestors. In the process of enjoying this performance, a process of transfer of ethical values experienced by students. The process of conservation of values also occurs during the process of artistic expression. In the process of expression, students convey their feelings to others through the chosen media. When students perform artistic expressions through barongan performances, this is when students get a transfer of the ethical values contained in barongan performances.



**Fig 3.** Barongan Kusumojoyo Demak Regency

### 4 CONCLUSION

This research will not be carried out without assistance and permission from several parties. For this reason, the author would like to thank the UPGRIS Rector for allowing the author to continue her studies.; Thank you to LPDP for providing scholarships to the author; thanks to the Rector of Unnes who gave permission to the author to study at the Unnes campus. Furthermore, thank you also to the promoter team who always guides and encourages author. Thank you for the art group Barongan Kusumojoyo who is willing to be bothered by the author, and thank you for all the parties that the author cannot mention one by one. The conclusion that can be drawn in this study is Barongan Kusumojoyo has ethical values in the show. The ethical values in the Barongan Kusumojoyo show consist of two values, namely positive ethical values and negative ethics. Positive ethics in the Barongan show appears in the

characters played by the barongan characters. Negative ethics appears in the character of bathara when it always disturbs people and looking for humans to become prey.

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