Transformation of Kim Game from the Gambling Arena to the Wedding Ceremony

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Abstract: This research aims at describing the metamorphosis of KIM game in the context of a wedding ceremony in Solok city, Sumatera Barat province. Previously, KIM was a music performance turned into the arena of gambling. However, nowadays, KIM performance has become the means of entertainment in the context of a wedding ceremony. This research used analysis descriptive method by listing KIM performances textually and contextually and metamorphose theory to explain that there's the change of the original form into a new form namely the change of form of KIM game with the gambling element into a performing art in wedding ceremony. Research results showed that the change of KIM game occurred because of the influence of people's view toward the context of gambling and music in KIM performance. Therefore, today, KIM performance is no longer a gambling arena but it has changed into the means of entertainment performed in the wedding ceremony of Solok people.

1 INTRODUCTION

KIM is one of the performances that consists of vocal music and instrumental music. Initially, KIM performance was a gambling arena where several audiences could participate by paying the registration fee. The winners of gambling were given prizes according to the amount of registration fee paid by them to KIM player.

Nowadays, KIM game has been performed in the wedding ceremony of Solok (a city in West Sumatera province, Indonesia) people. However, conceptually, KIM game does not undergo changes. The changes occur on the awarding system of KIM game winners and that the participants are no longer needed to pay the registration fee to KIM player. It’s because the prizes that will be contested are provided by the host who will hold the wedding ceremony.

KIM performance at the wedding party gets a lot of attention from its people. This performance is able to distract people’s attention especially the young generation who previously preferred to enjoy music performance that its performers wore too sexy clothes and danced too seductive movements. And these things tend to result in chaos. Nowadays, young people do not focus on the kind of music performance that can corrupt their mind. Their attention has been alternated to KIM performance where they can enjoy the music and also expect the prizes that have been previously prepared by the host.

Hence, this research aims at describing the changes of KIM performance in the context of the wedding ceremony of Solok people.

2 METHOD

This research used an analytical descriptive method started with collecting information related to KIM performance in the context of the wedding ceremony in Solok city. The related information was collected through KIM players, KIM fans, KIM users, and KIM observers. The observation was focused on the social situation that caused the existence of KIM performance in the life of Solok people. It’s then continued with the more general and deep observation toward research focus so finally, the research objective could be described namely the transformation of KIM performance from the gambling arena to the entertainment medium in the context of a wedding ceremony.

Data collection was conducted through the observation and interview toward KIM players, KIM fans, KIM users, and KIM observers in Solok city.
And the metamorphose theory proposed by Soedarsono was used in the discussion of the research problem. Soedarsono in Hadi (2009: 170) stated that metamorphose theory is a theory of the process of transformation and structural change. Therefore, art by metamorphosis has the characteristics of (1) the imitation of its original form; (2) a brief and compact packaging; (3) setting aside the sacred, magical, and symbolic values; (4) full of variation; and (5) cheap price.

3 RESULT AND DISCUSSION

3.1 KIM in the Context of Gambling

KIM was one of mix performances of music and vocal with the gambling played during it that evolved in the Minangkabau society of West Sumatera. Vocal sung was in the form of Minangkabau pantun and verse that’a s accompanied by combo band music. In the several pantuns sung by the KIM singer, several numbers were mentioned that became the element of gambling.

3.1.1 Element of Gambling in the Game

KIM game has four elements namely:

1. Registration fee paid according to the amount determined by KIM singer;
2. Paper coupons with numbers on it prepared by KIM singer;
3. Dices made of wood;
4. Prizes dedicated for the winners of KIM game.

Those four elements describe the existence of the gambling element in KIM game. Gambling is the game by using money or precious things as its bet obtained through several ways such as dice game and card game (http:www: KBBI V, 2016: 590)

3.1.2 Game Procedure

KIM game was performed by singer and combo band musical players as its accompaniment. KIM game was started with the payment of registration fee by the participants to KIM singer. The amount of registration fee was adjusted to how high or low the nominal value of the contested prize, such as the bicycle, radio transistor, tape recorder, umbrella, jacket, raincoat, flashlight, petromax light, and so on. The number of participants was determined according to the target desired by KIM singer.

KIM singer started the performance by singing a song that its lyric contained the warning of being careful in playing the game in order to avoid any error.

Example of pantun:

Kaladang mari kaladang
Kaladang batanam padi
Lah sudah buah digoyang
Bamain kito kumbali
diangkek batu partamo
apo angko nan tibo
hati hati manjago
jan sampai salah pulo

In Indonesia language,

Ke ladang mari ke ladang
(To the field, let’s go to the field)
Ke ladang bertanam padi
(To the field, to plant paddy)
Setelah buah di goyang
(After the paddy has been harvested)
Hati-hati paman menjaga
(Be careful sir, in taking care)
Bermain kita kembali
(Let’s we play once again)

Diangkat batu pertama
(Being lifted the first stone)
Apa angka yang tiba
(What numbers will be out)
Hati-hati manjaga
(Be careful when taking care)
Jan sampai salah pula
(Don’t be wrong)

Next, KIM player started to sing a lyric that directed the participants to concentrate on listening to numbers that would be mentioned by KIM singer.

Example of Pantun:

Iyo kaladang baolah sanduak
Iyo dibaok nan mudo-mudo
Sudah digoyang buah dikaruak
Hati lah hati mamak manjago

In Indonesia language,

Ke ladang bawalah sendok
(to the field, please bring the spoon)
Dibawa anak muda-muda
(It’s brought by the youngsters)
Sudah digoyang buah dikeruk
(After harvesting, the fruit is eaten)
Hati lah hati paman menjaga
(Please be careful o dear Sir in taking care)
3.1.3 Implementation of Gambling in KIM Game

Each player held the paper coupons containing numbers 1 until 90. Those numbers were randomly written on the column of paper coupons had by each player so the player did not have the same number.

[Image: Picture of paper coupons]

Figure 1: It’s a picture of paper coupons.

The numbers of 1 – 90 had by KIM singer were designed in the form of dices. Dices were placed in a small cylindrical can. This can with the dices in it was then shaken according to the song tempo sung by KIM singer. Those dices were taken one by one, and the number written on the taken dice was the number mentioned through the pantun of KIM singer. This thing was done repeatedly until there was one of the participants who shouted that his/her paper coupon has been fully marked according to the numbers mentioned by KIM singer for s/he marked the numbers on the column of paper coupon based on the numbers mentioned by KIM singer.

If the holder of paper coupon had marked all numbers on the column of his/her paper coupon according to numbers mentioned by KIM singer, s/he shouted: “oooo masuak siko” (in Indonesia language, masuk disini; in English, it’s jackpot over here). After hearing the shouting, KIM singer and musician stopped the performance. Then, KIM singer matched the numbers mentioned with the number marked on participant’s paper coupon. If those numbers were the same, the participant was entitled to get the prize.

3.2 Metamorphosis Packaging of KIM Performance

Nowadays, KIM game has undergone changes whether from the internal or external context of performance. The changes occur on KIM singer, song sung during the game, and accompaniment. The other changes also occur in its supporting society and the procurement of prizes. These changes are caused by several influencing factors whether internally or externally (Sumiarti, 2015: 33).

The current KIM game is the imitation of the previous form that’s then made into the entertaining musical performance. The element of gambling in the KIM game then becomes a distinctive style in the latter-day performing arts. Soedarsono in Hadi (2009: 170) also stated similar thing. He explained that art by metamorphosis has the characteristics of (1) the imitation of its original form; (2) a brief and compact packaging; (3) setting aside the sacred, magical, and symbolic values; (4) full of variation; (5) cheap price. Referring to the characteristics of metamorphose art stated previously, today KIM performance has these characteristics such as how to give prizes, various song rhythms, singers, performance stage, and performance equipments.

Basically, people’s traditional performing arts is the product of aesthetic creativity in the past with its local characteristics that then grew and became part of the continuity of its people culture and tradition (Bahar, 2015: 77).

Referring to Bahar’s statement, the whole KIM performance is the product of creativity in order to maintain the continuity of people’s culture. It happens because the process of imitation from an old and real form therewith its state of affairs namely the gambling becomes a performing art that involves various aspects related to KIM performance namely 1) host, 2) KIM singer, 3) property, 4) electronic media, 5) prize, 6) location of performance.

3.2.1 The Host

Nowadays, the implementation of KIM performance is based on the host’s request toward a KIM group. The host is a person or a group of people who hold a reception at once is responsible for the implementation of KIM performance, starting from determining the schedule and location, providing KIM singer and team’s property and facility, and paying the service fee of KIM singer and the team that consists of keyboardist and technician. Usually, the technician will prepare all things related to the success of the performance and also become the operator of a projector screen. However, this meticulous preparation is worthless without people’s participation to support the success of the performance. During the performance, the host always maintains good behavior and gives facility for participating people in the form of drinks and
The snacks become something attracting people’s attention to take part in succeeding the KIM performance.

This actual condition is the important thing that must be taken into consideration by the host particularly in maintaining good relationship with the relatives who have come to participate and enliven the reception that’s being held so a peaceful and quiet atmosphere is created, yet it’s also full of joy and cheer starting from the beginning until the end of KIM performance.

### 3.2.2 KIM Singer

Basically, KIM singer only receives a service fee from the host of reception. Therefore nowadays, KIM singer is only fully responsible on the continuity of KIM performance.

KIM singer must have the ability in vocal and literature areas, and have the various and substantial vocabularies of song rhythm starting from the pop song, dangdut, and Minangkabau rhythmic songs. Besides, s/he must be able to act following the song rhythm while shaking the can on her/his hand. KIM singer is also able to respond to the atmosphere in performance; s/he has the ability in modifying the literature according to the number taken from the can.

KIM singer is also responsible to provide the paper coupons that will be given to the audiences or participants and the number of those coupons becomes the payment fare of KIM singer’s service fee. Usually, for a thousand coupons, KIM singer demands IDR 2,000,000 excluding the fee of transportation, keyboardist, and the other technician. Those coupons are made into five colors namely white, light blue, light green, pink, and yellow. Those coupons are stapled into unity until reaching a thousand coupons. These coupons are then given to the host of reception when these two parties meet for doing the transaction, and it usually occurs one week prior to the performance. Later, those coupons were given by the host to the guests or/and audiences according to their invitation.

### 3.2.3 Dices

Dices in KIM performance have various forms and these depend on KIM singer’s fondness such as octagonal dice, rectangular dice, and circular dice. Those dices are made of fiber plastic with the diameter around 2 cm. These dices are then taken by KIM singer one by one from the cylindrical can while singing.

![Figure 2: It's the figure of Dice Form. (It's the document of ISI Padangpanjang research team and taken on 12 July 2018.)](image)

### 3.2.4 Paper Coupons

Nowadays, there are five colors of paper coupons namely white, light blue, light green, pink, and yellow. Every coupon consists of three columns, every column consists of two lines, and every line consists of 9 boxes filled by 5 numbers in the random distance. It means that every coupon consists of six lines with 30 different numbers.

![Figure 3: It's a figure of rectangular paper coupon containing numbers hold by KIM participant (It's the document of ISI Padangpanjang research team and taken on 12 July 2018.)](image)
Numbers mentioned by KIM singer are displayed on the projector screen according to the colors of the coupons being played. The form and size of paper coupons are determined by KIM player based on her/his own style.

### 3.2.5 Electronic Media

a. Keyboard
   In KIM performance, a keyboard is used to accompany KIM song. The keyboard is usually played by a person who really comprehends the pattern of KIM game.

b. Sound System
   The sound system is useful to lift up the voice of KIM singer so all audiences or participants can hear clearly the numbers mentioned by KIM singer and make them easier to mark those numbers in their own coupons.

   Besides, a good sound system is also able to liven up the songs and enliven the atmosphere. It’s because, among the participants, some participants are not only interested in hearing the numbers but also hearing to and dancing with the songs sung by KIM singer. This is also the reason why KIM performance is more and more fancied by old and young people day by day.

c. Laptop, Projector, and Projector Screen
   In KIM performance, laptop functions as the media for jotting down the numbers sung by KIM singer and then projected to the screen projector. Therefore, the laptop operator must also comprehend the pattern of KIM game.

   Before starting the game, the screen projector has been set up by the laptop operator according to the colors instructed by KIM singer. Therefore, the laptop operator must have a good and high concentration in listening to the numbers mentioned by KIM singer.

   In KIM performance, the projector screen assists the audiences or participants to detect the numbers that have been written on their cards. It can facilitate the audiences or participants in following KIM game because the forgotten numbers can be seen from the screen projector.

### 3.2.6 Prizes

The prizes in KIM game come from several sources namely the host, the donors, and the audience’s or participant’s donation. Prizes usually depend on the host and donors’ capability.

   In KIM game, the big prizes are usually contested in the pink paper coupons, while the grand prize will be contested in the yellow paper coupons at the end of the performance.

   The change of people’s mindset from gambling into the performing arts is one of the ways to conserve Solok people’s art and culture. In fact, the changes of KIM performance in the culture of its supporting society then becomes the new repertoire in the vocabularies of traditional music (McDermutt, 2013: 4).

### 3.2.7 Location of Performance

The stage form of KIM performance depends on the host’s capability the most important thing is having a wider area. It’s because the fans or audiences who want to participate come from various areas even the ones without invitation.

   The host provides snacks for the participants in the forms of fried rice, fried sweet potato, fried banana, mineral water, and other snacks according to the host’s capability.

### 3.3 Songs in KIM Performance

Songs that are often sung in KIM performance are rhythmic and up-beat songs such as dangdut, pop, Hindi, Malay, and Minangkabau rhythmic songs.

   The following notations are the examples of songs and pantun texts of KIM performance in Minangkabau rhythm.
CONCLUSIONS

There are four general conclusions derived from this research.

a. The current KIM performance is the imitation process of its original form therewith its environment.

b. The metamorphosis of KIM performance describes the character of gambling that nowadays becomes a performing art that functions as entertainment.

c. KIM performance is also the media used to communicate the learning of Minangkabau literature through the lyrics of KIM songs.

d. KIM performance is one of the forms of Minangkabau cultural preservation.
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