



**The Tradition of Weighing The Prospective Bride and Groom  
in The Wedding Customs of The Sekernan Muaro Jambi Community  
and Its Relevance in History Learning**

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**Abstract**

Learning about traditions is of course important so as not to lose existing culture and to be able to maintain and introduce wider traditions. This research aims to examine the tradition of weighing the bride and groom in the marriage customs of the Sekernan Muaro Jambi community and its relevance in learning history. This research uses qualitative research methods with a descriptive approach. Based on this research, it can be seen that the tradition of weighing the bride is a tradition passed down from generation to generation and is very closely related to the social life of the community and there are local wisdom values in each implementation. It can be seen that the tradition of weighing the bride is a tradition passed down from generation to generation and is very closely related to the social life of the community.

**Keywords**

Considering the bride, marriage, history learning

**Abstrak**

*Pembelajaran mengenai tradisi tentunya penting agar tidak kehilangan budaya yang ada dan dapat mempertahankan dan mengenalkan tradisi lebih luas. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji tradisi menimbang pengantin dalam adat perkawinan masyarakat Sekernan Muaro Jambi dan relevansinya dalam pembelajaran sejarah. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode penelitian kualitatif dengan pendekatan deskriptif. Berdasarkan penelitian ini dapat diketahui tradisi menimbang pengantin merupakan tradisi turun-temurun dan sangat kental kaitannya dengan kehidupan sosial masyarakat serta terdapat nilai-nilai kearifan lokal dalam setiap pelaksanaannya dapat di ketahui Tradisi Menimbang Pengantin merupakan tradisi turun-temurun dan sangat kental kaitannya dengan kehidupan sosial masyarakat.*

**Kata Kunci**

*Menimbang pengantin, perkawinan, pembelajaran sejarah*

**Introduction**

Learning that has local wisdom is one of the history subjects. Local unidirectional learning is able to provide students with knowledge of their own past in their region. The presence of local history in school learning can also provide innovation directly to students with actions, figures or historical heritage. History learning must be able to adapt and combine what existed in the past with technology in the modern era (Syahputra et al., 2020a). Learning local history is important as a source of historical learning because it makes it possible to relate very closely to very local events and has an important and valuable role in shaping larger events (Christianto et al., 2024). Indonesian society always values cultural values, one of which is local culture which

is widely practiced by the community (Khakim, 2024). Learning local history is a means of forming national identity through historical awareness and cultural awareness, as well as an approach for a teacher or lecturer to introduce students to local wisdom around them. Learning history like this will make students understand own history or their environment, which can make students sensitive to what is happening around them (Romadi & Ganda, 2017).

Culture is a complex whole which includes knowledge, art, morals, law, customs, and all other skills and habits practiced by people as members of society (Oktalia & Rizki, 2024). Culture is a thought of customs, something that grows, something that has become a tradition that is difficult to change. In the world of education, culture can be used to expand knowledge because what is actually summarized in culture is very broad (Sumarto, 2019). Furthermore, according to Tylor (Syakhrani & Muhammad, 2022). culture is a form of connection that includes insight, religion, beauty, character, law, customs, skills and traditions accepted by society as members of society itself. Culture and traditions are created to help and benefit society, not to burden or harm society (Aulia et al., 2024).

Marriages or weddings in Indonesia are carried out by various tribes and nations. Marriages carried out by various nations and tribes in Indonesia definitely have customs that are not the same as other races who participate in binding traditions. Like the Jambi community, it has its own rules or procedures for marriage. One of the areas in Jambi, namely Sekernan Village, Muaro Jambi Regency, some people carry out full customs in their weddings. There are also a series of events, including: the groom's pick-up event, the event held in the yard, the opening ceremony, the event at the weighing scale, the event at the swing location, the event at the hanging house, the show-off, the announcement event, and the reading of prayers (Zamri, 2018).

In the tradition of weighing the bride and groom in the Sekernan community, it is a procession that always occurs at every wedding or marriage event, accompanied by special events during its implementation. Learning about traditions is of course important so as not to lose existing culture and can maintain and introduce traditions more widely in order to know and maintain the tradition of weighing the bride and groom with unique local wisdom values.

From the explanation above, there are many interesting things found in the implementation of the wedding procession, namely regarding the procession of weighing the bride and groom according to wedding customs which are held at a weighing place which has local wisdom values. Then what is feared in the future is that the bridal weighing procession is not maintained and with the series of events in the wedding ceremony containing important elements, the fear is that people are now being carried away by modern trends and forgetting the traditional wedding procession. In fact, in the form of expanding knowledge about traditions to students, learning history in high school is one of the relevant subjects, both in terms of material/curriculum and objectives. Therefore, this study also analyzes the relevance of history learning in high school in the hope that it can become a basis for history teachers to include the tradition of weighing the bride and groom in their learning. Thus, the aim of this research is to find out the beginning, procession and relevance of the tradition of weighing the bride and groom in the marriage customs of the Sekernan community in history learning. This research is also expected to provide theoretical and practical benefits, such as increasing knowledge and



information, becoming a reference for future research, and providing information and recommendations for teachers in learning.

The author's research implementation draws from research that is relevant to the title of this research. This was carried out to find out information from previous research as a reference, including: first in a journal written by Fenny Desmi Widyasusti in 2023 with the title "The History of the Pantuan Mangkal Luagh Tradition in Kedurang and Its Relevance to History Learning in High School" Indonesian journal journal of social science education volume 5 No 2. The two theses were written by Ali Firdaus 2018 "Marriage Traditions of the Kendal Serut Community, Pangkah District, Tegal Regency and Their Relevance to Masalah Murlahan". Family Law Study Program. Faculty of Sharia and Law, Syarif Hidayatullah State Islamic University, Jakarta. Third, the thesis written by Adeltrusdis Bamung. 2020. "The Belis Tradition in the Marriage Customs of the People of Beo Sepang Village, Boleng District, West Manggarai Regency". History Education Study Program. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Muhammadiyah University of Mataram. Fourth in the thesis written by Ardiansyah. 2023. "The Henna Dance Tradition in the Wedding Ceremony of the Malay Community of Dawan Bay, East Tanjung Jabung and Its Relevance in History Learning." History Education Study Program. Faculty of Teacher Training and Education, Jambi University.

This research discusses the tradition of weighing the bride and groom in the marriage customs of the Sekernan Muaro Jambi village community and its relevance in teaching history. In this tradition there are contributions in the form of educational values that can be applied in history learning at school.

## Method

The method should be well elaborated enhancing the model, the analysis approach and the steps taken. Equations The research methodology for this research is qualitative. Education with a descriptive approach can be carried out using direct observation and relevant sources. Qualitative methods have a descriptive nature that is increasingly entrenched and has a greater awareness based on the natural conditions of what is to be researched, and the researcher himself reacts when the key instrument provides the required data (Yusanto, 2019: 3). This research uses a descriptive approach to tell in a structured manner the truth and characteristics of the objects and subjects studied correctly.

Data and data sources for this research have two data, namely primary data and secondary data. The primary data that researchers will use are interviews with traditional leaders, village heads, and people in Sekernan village. Meanwhile, secondary data for researchers has in the form of articles, journals and theses that are relevant to the researcher's discussion. The data collection technique in this research is literature combining several data and information with the support of various types of material found, field research using interview, observation and documentation methods in photographs and data that is relevant to the research.

Test the validity of data or test the validity of data for researchers through triangulation which is a way of collecting existing data and data sources. The triangulation used by researchers is in the form of source collation to evaluate the reliability of data carried out in the form of proving data that has been received through several data sources that have been studied

for researchers to form a conclusion (Yuliani, 2018). The data analysis technique of this method is induction analysis which is the data analysis technique used for this research, which means drawing conclusions based on special evidence which will then draw a general conclusion. The steps include: data collection, data reduction, data display, and concluding (Rijali, 2018). The procedures for this research are the preparation stage, implementation stage, data analysis stage, and final stage.

## **Result and Discussion**

### **Result**

The tradition of weighing the bride and groom is one of the traditional wedding ceremonies in Jambi society. This tradition has been passed down from generation to generation and is still used by the Sekernan people today. The tradition of weighing the bride and groom is a traditional ceremony that is related to the customs performed at weddings in the Jambi community in Sekernan Village, Sekernan District, Muaro Jambi Regency, which have existed for a long time and are still maintained today. The tradition of weighing the bride and groom is a marriage system carried out by the Sekernan village community as a means of friendship. With this tradition, the marriage system can be utilized by the Sekernan village community as a bond of brotherhood among its citizens so that the solidarity that exists in community life will be maintained.

The traditional procession of weighing the bride and groom in the Sekernan wedding custom. The implementation of the ceremony for weighing the bride and groom includes the following.

1. Gathering of relatives, namely the tradition of gathering relatives/relatives from the village. The gathering of village brothers and sisters to give alms or donations to the bride and groom's family to buy to meet the needs of the wedding reception and is also a form of mutual cooperation among the community. The bridal procession, this bridal procession is carried out by the bride in the morning by climbing onto boats which are carried by several men totaling 8-12 people, This procession was accompanied by prayers by the tambourine group. When arriving at the weighing place, the bride is taken around the weighing place seven times (like a tawaf person). Bridal scales are usually made from areca nut trunks/trees covered with long cloth. On one side of the scale there is a chair that has been made, tied and decorated in such a way as to be the place for the bride to sit when she is weighed. And on the other side of the scale there is one that contains basic necessities. Based on the results of an interview with Mr. Alamsya as the head of Sekernan village, he stated that Considering the Bride is one of the processions of bridal wine, namely the procession of the bride being carried on boats, helicopters or other forms as creative as the teenagers who make them and also decorated as uniquely and attractively as possible. The procession of the bride and groom is followed by singing prayers.
2. Swinging, after carrying out a series of processions, the bride is carried to climb the scales that have been prepared. The people who carry the bride are usually two men who are the bride's brothers who have not broken their ablution, or the closest family members who have been mutually agreed upon by the bride's extended family. Because the bride who will



be weighed is already in a state of purity or performing ablution. When on the scales the bride steps on the cow's head and will be swung slowly by the family seven times.

3. Prayer, after the swinging process is complete, continue with a prayer to God Almighty, that the bride and groom will always be given safety and blessings as well as all goodness for the bride and groom who will marry.
4. Khatam Al-Quran, only after the prayer reading is finished, the bride and groom are taken to the altar to perform the khatam Al-Quran accompanied by their Quran teacher.

History education has a very important role in building historical awareness. The differences that occurred in the past are the best history lessons for a better future. History learning must be integrated into the historical material presented at school. Just as history learning material must be able to improve and develop the quality and identity of students by shaping the character of students so that they have attitudes of nationalism, tolerance, empathy and other positive attitudes, the role of historical material is very important in building a sense of national unity and integrity in very heterogeneous conditions in people's lives (Yafi, 2023).

The tradition of weighing the bride and groom which is often found in the culture of Sekernan village contains many character education values, some of the values that can be identified from this tradition include.

1. Religious, in the tradition of weighing the bride and groom, it is not only a traditional ritual but also contains religious values that teach obedience, gratitude and respect for God and ancestors.
2. Togetherness and mutual cooperation, the tradition of weighing the bride and groom involves many people, both from the family and the surrounding community, thereby teaching the importance of cooperation and mutual cooperation in achieving common goals.
3. Concern and respect for culture, through preserving the tradition of weighing the bride and groom, the younger generation is taught to respect and maintain the cultural heritage that has been passed down from their ancestors, this increases awareness of cultural identity and the importance of maintaining traditions.
4. Family harmony and cohesion, this tradition is usually carried out in the context of marriage which is an important moment in a person's life so that through This tradition of weighing the bride and groom strengthens the values of harmony and cohesion in the family.
5. Patience and strength in the preparation and implementation process. The tradition of weighing the bride and groom requires patience and perseverance. This teaches that everything of value requires effort and dedication.
6. Respect, this tradition also reflects respect for the bridal couple, both from the family and society, this shows how respect and appreciation for other people is an important part of social life.
7. Social and human values, involving many parties in the procession. This tradition shows the importance of social interaction and how individuals help and support each other.

Based on an interview with Mr. Jamaludin regarding the tradition of weighing the bride and groom so that it can be preserved in the younger generation, namely: From his explanation, it is hoped that the tradition of weighing the bride and groom can be brought into the learning process at school so that young people can pass on the culture and maintain the tradition of

weighing the bride and groom to the wider community and can take on good values. in every process.

The traditional value of weighing the bride and groom has relevance to history learning in high school/vocational school. This relevance is shown in the Core Competencies which contain: (1) living and practicing the teachings of the religion one adheres to; (2) appreciate and practice honest, disciplined, responsible, caring behavior (mutual cooperation, cooperation, tolerance, peace), polite, responsive and pro-active and show an attitude as part of the solution to various problems in interacting effectively with social and natural environment and in positioning oneself as a reflection of the nation in world relations; (3) understand, apply, analyze factual, conceptual, procedural knowledge based on curiosity about science, technology, arts, culture and humanities with insight into humanity, nationality, statehood and civilization regarding phenomena and events, as well as applying procedural knowledge in the field specific studies according to their talents and interests in solving problems; and (4) process, reason and present in the concrete and abstract domains related to the development of what they learn at school independently, and are able to use methods according to scientific principles. Based on the description above, it can be seen that Core Competency Groups (KI) 1 and 2 aim to shape students' character, both from a religious and social perspective, 3 aims to provide students with knowledge about all phenomena in their environment, and 4 aims to apply the knowledge they have so that beneficial for oneself and the environment. This relevance is also aimed at Basic Competencies in history subjects for class X KD 3.5 Analyze and apply historical thinking in studying historical events, KD 3.6 Analyze sources of various forms/types of historical sources, KD 3.7 Analyze relationships and apply historical research steps to historical events and XII KD 3.8 Analyze political, economic, social culture and education during the new order and reform.

The procession of considering the bride and groom consists of two events, namely ritual and culture. Ritual events are synonymous with community beliefs. The ritual in question is related to the religious aspect, namely the reading of the Koran and prayer at the closing of the event. This can be relevant to education at school because the spiritual aspect of education at school is related to the oneness of God and is in accordance with Core Competency (KI) 1 to appreciate and practice the teachings of the religion one adheres to. Furthermore, cultural events are an effort to preserve local culture. Preserving local culture needs to be pursued through education. This shows that the traditional event of Weighing the Bride which has relevance to education is a cultural event. With the tradition of weighing the bride and groom, students can increase their knowledge of traditions in their own region. Teachers can add this tradition to their learning materials. This is expected can give students enthusiasm for learning as the nation's next generation and love the local culture they have. By knowing the Bride Considering Tradition, there are educational values or meanings in each procession which can be studied in history lessons, students can experience holistic and enjoyable learning. They not only learn historical facts, but also internalize valuable cultural values. This helps them become more empathetic, tolerant individuals and have pride in their cultural heritage.



## Discussion

### 1. The Beginning of The Tradition of Considering The Bride and Groom in The Marriage Customs of The Sekernan Muaro Jambi Community

The researcher's findings at the beginning of the tradition of weighing the bride and groom were that this tradition was passed down from previous parents, the people also do not know for sure how the tradition of weighing the bride and groom came to be in the village of Sekernan. They only know that this tradition has existed since ancient times and is still ongoing today. in Sekernan village, Sekernan District. The tradition of considering the bride and groom was formed as a result of the thoughts of ancestors in ancient times (Zamri, 2018) This finding is also supported by research by (Firdaus, 2018) that the traditions in his research that have been carried out by the community have been passed down from ancient times or from previous parents. In all their actions, they usually cannot be separated from following the traditions or habits adhered to by their ancestors.

### 2. Traditional Procession of Weighing The Bride and Groom at The Wedding Ceremony of The Sekernan Community in Muaro Jambi

The procession in the Weighing the Bride and Groom tradition symbolizes prosperity, which is marked by a sweet selemak on one of the scales containing the life needs of the bride and groom, a symbol of transition for the bride and groom, that there has been a transition period for the bride and groom from childhood to a time of change in the ladder, the duties and responsibilities of the bride and groom are also increase, and also as motivation in reading the Koran. According to (Zamri, 2018), the procession of weighing the bride is not only a traditional procession used by the Sekernan community, but this activity has meanings contained in it, including as a symbol of prosperity marked by a sweet selemak on one of the scales, which means that it is hoped that there will be no shortages. in terms of clothing, food and shelter, as a symbol of the transition period, which means that the duties and responsibilities owned and borne by the bride and groom who will be married are different from the time before they were married, and as a warning of guidance and advice for the happiness of life for both of them, it is hoped that the bride and groom will understand each other. and understand that their behavior after marriage cannot be equated with their behavior before marriage

There are good values in every process that can be taken as an example for life. This finding is also supported by (Firdaus, 2018) in his research. Every wedding procession carried out in his research has a very strong philosophy and meaning. Every part of the method conveys the glory of local wisdom. Each element of the procession contains prayers and hopes for the eternity and happiness of the bride and groom who will sail the household ship.

### 3. The Relevance of The Tradition of Considering The Bride and Groom in The Marriage Customs of The Sekernan Community in History Learning

This relevance is shown in the Core Competencies and Basic Competencies in history subjects for class steps for historical research on historical events and XII KD 3.8 Analyze political, economic, socio-cultural and educational developments during the New Order and Reform era.

In history subjects, there are the same Core Competencies between SMA and SMK which contain: (1) appreciate and practice the teachings of the religion you follow; (2) appreciate and practice honest, disciplined, responsible, caring behavior (mutual cooperation, cooperation, tolerance, peace), polite, responsive and pro-active and show an attitude as part of the solution to various problems in interacting effectively with the social environment and nature and in placing oneself as a reflection of the nation in world relations; (3) understand, apply, analyze factual, conceptual, procedural knowledge based on curiosity about science, technology, arts, culture and humanities with insight into humanity, nationality, statehood and civilization regarding phenomena and events, as well as applying procedural knowledge in the field specific studies according to their talents and interests in solving problems; and (4) process, reason and present in the concrete and abstract domains related to the development of what they learn at school independently, and are able to use methods according to scientific principles.

There are educational values in the tradition of weighing the bride and groom, including religious, honest, tolerant, disciplined, hard work, creative, independent, democratic, curiosity, national spirit, love of the country, respect for achievements, communicative/friendly, love of peace, caring for the environment, caring. social and responsibility. With the educational values contained in this tradition, it can be instilled in students so that they can be applied in students' daily lives.

Learning local history can provide direct stimulus to students regarding witnesses, perpetrators or historical remains, students can interact directly and ask questions about the life side of historical actors and students can emulate the values contained therein (Syahputra et al., 2020b). This finding is supported by the research of (Widyastuti et al., 2023) that traditions in their research can be integrated into the themes of historical thinking, historical sources and historical research for class X and the theme of cultural development in the New Order and reform era for class XII.

## **Conclusions**

The tradition of weighing the bride and groom is one of the traditions of the Malay tribe. Considering the Bride and Groom is a traditional tradition used in traditional wedding activities, namely during the wedding reception procession. It is not known with certainty the history of the Bridal Considering carried out by the Sekernan community. This Bridal Considering is very much integrated with the habits and customs of this place. And it has been carried out for generations. The meaning of considering the bride and groom is as a symbol or symbol of prosperity, as a symbol of the transitional period for the bride and groom, as a warning of guidance and advice for the happiness of life for both of them, and motivating the bride and groom to read the Al-Quran. Considering the Bride and Groom is also interpreted as a symbol of the willingness of both parents and family members to let go of their sons and daughters' bachelorhood. The tradition of weighing the bride and groom has educational value that can be used in history learning. Such as values based on religion, Pancasila, culture and national education goals that must be achieved in school learning, namely: religious, honest, tolerant, disciplined, hard work, creative, independent, democratic, curiosity, national spirit, love of the homeland, respects achievement, communicative/friendly, loves peace, likes to read, cares



about the environment, cares socially, and is responsible. The relevance of the Bride-Wearing tradition with the values contained in history learning is in accordance with Basic Competencies (KD) 3.5 Analyzing and Applying historical thinking in studying historical events, 3.6 Analyzing various forms/types of historical sources, 3.7 Analyzing relationships and applying the following steps. historical research steps towards historical events, and 3.8 Analyzing political, economic, socio-cultural and educational developments during the New Order and Reform era. For this reason, the tradition of Considering the Bride and Groom is closely related to the study of history. Because the learning process requires real examples or conveying examples directly related to the learning material to students, so that students can understand the learning material well. The educational values contained in the tradition of considering the bride and groom can be instilled in students so that they can be applied in the daily lives of students both individually and in society.

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