

## Analysis of Educational Values in Malay Zapin Dance

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### Abstract

Research was conducted on one of the arts and cultures in Indonesia, namely dance. The dance chosen as the object of this research is the Malay Zapin Dance. This research was conducted to discover what Islamic values are contained in dance, which is used as one of the arts. The study was performed using the Literature Review Method. Researchers conducted research by collecting various sources that conducted similar research and reviewing the research results by providing updates on the values of Islamic education, which will be used as a reference for subsequent analysis. The research results show several Islamic educational values found in the Malay Zapin dance, including Worship, Aqidah, and Moral Values found in several Malay Zapin Tatri movements. This can be used as a reference to become a source of knowledge regarding the values of Islamic education.

**Keywords:** Values, Islamic Education, Malay Zapin Dance

#### History:

Received : 08 Oct 2023

Revised : 09 Nov 2023

Accepted : 28 Nov 2023

Published : 31 Dec 2023

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**Publishers:** LPM IAIN Syaikh Abdurrahman Siddik Bangka Belitung, Indonesia

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## Introduction

Indonesia is famous for all types of culture, and many Indonesian cultures provide content expressed in art, one of which is dance (Alifi, 2021). Educational values in dance can vary depending on the type of dance, culture, and context of performance (Ciptaningsih, 2017; Fitriani, 2020; Syahrir, 2021). However, in general, dance is a powerful tool to promote personal and social development and understanding of art and culture, especially the value of Islamic education that has content in dance (Yulianto, 2020).

Education is one of the infrastructure facilities every child is entitled to in developing their abilities and personality. Education is a conscious and planned effort to create a learning atmosphere and learning process so that students actively develop their potential to have religious and spiritual strength, self-control, personality, intelligence, noble character, and skills needed by themselves, society, nation and state (Daningtyas et al., 2021). Based on this statement, it can be understood that the purpose of learning in education is self-potential development. Education can be taken in various aspects of life, such as at home, school, environmental associations, and activities within the scope of non-formal schools, such as extracurricular and one of them is in extracurricular dance or even cultural arts lessons (Putri, 2020). Education is not only obtained through academics but can also be obtained from non-academic education. For example, academic education is science, mathematics, and science that studies general knowledge, while non-academic sciences such as dance.

Art is one of the works of creation with beauty and values that can be taken in it to become one of the means for students to get an education through art. Art is inseparable from human life. The expression of human feelings contains an aesthetic in the form of beauty so that art can be interpreted as all creations or human works with beauty and meaning. In life, especially in religion, we need to learn various positive values that can be knowledge to live a better life in the future. One of the places to gain understanding can be through the work of the Zapin Malay Dance.

Zapin Malay dance is an art dance that is strong in religious values, and it can be seen that this dance has Islamic nuances because the religious values contained in the Malay Zapin dance are related to the spread of Islam throughout the archipelago in Indonesia. This is associated with the arrival of Arabs who are Islamic to the coast of Sumatra and peninsular Malaysia by bringing various types of culture. Therefore, in the Malay zapin dance, multiple religious values can be used to pour educational values.

## **Method**

This study used a qualitative descriptive method. By focusing on the object of Islamic educational values in Malay Zapin dance, I explain in detail the matters contained in Malay zapin dance through a Literature Review by reading and analyzing several sources that discuss the importance of Islamic education in Malay zapin dance and then developing the results of the study to be more detailed by linking to several verses in the Qur'an regarding the discussion of the value of education.

Through literature research, by collecting data related to the research object or collecting bibliographical data. Or a study to solve a problem focused on a critical and in-depth analysis of relevant library materials. Research with literature studies is research whose preparation is the same as other research, but the sources and methods of data collection by taking data in the library, reading, recording, and processing research materials.

## **Results and Discussion**

Zapin Melayu Dance Zapin Melayu dance is a traditional Malay dance that still survives on several coasts of North Sumatra, one of which is in Labuhan Medan Labuhan District, formerly known as Labuhan Deli. The survival of the Zapin tradition in Labuhan is an exciting phenomenon amid the rapid flow of urban culture that affects the space of traditional dance movements every time. Tradition is a process of growth that is not always easy to damage or tain, and it is wiser if we explore it, not to drift with it, but to cultivate and develop it. What we inherit is not just the form of birth but also the spirit and values (Khairusani, 2020).

The Zapin dance that is still left today, including Zapin in Labuhan, is a form of Arab culture acculturated with Malay culture. Zapin, who came to this archipelago, including the coast of North Sumatra, is estimated to be in line with the spread of Arab culture in this region, whose density has been so massive since the 13th century. Art history experts have not widely revealed which area received Zapin first in the archipelago. Therefore, zapin dance has become one of the cultural art forms in Indonesia that has Islamic education value in its dance.

## **Educational Values in Malay Zapin Dance**

Zapin dance is a mixture of Malay and Arab tribes. Zapin is a dance that tells the prevailing customs still maintained in Indonesia. The journey of zapin dance takes quite a long time. Zapin dance in a community is a form of communication that relies on traditional patterns in an area passed down for generations (Jailani, A., Dora & Azizah, 2023). Generally, dance is only used as a performance in entertainment. Still, it is not only limited to joy, and dance has various meanings that can be used as a reference in carrying out education and as a guideline in social life. Because Zapin Dance is a dance that is a mixture between Malay and Arab Muslims, many Islamic educational values are contained in the zapin dance, including the following:

### **1. The Value of Worship**

Worship is an act to connect and get closer to Allah SWT as a worshipped God. Allah Almighty created that man and should serve and worship. Obey the commandments and shun all His prohibitions. Worship brings a person to fulfil the commands of Allah SWT, give thanks for the blessings Allah has verified and carry out the rights of fellow humans (Deshpande, 2013).

Therefore, worship doesn't need to provide results and benefits to material people, nor is it easy to know the wisdom of worship through the limited ability of reason. Worship is not always delivered through lectures but can be provided through dance, and one of the dances that contains worship values is the Malay Zapin dance. Here are some of the worship values found in the Malay Zapin dance:

**a. Tidal Wave Motion**

This movement means that a good thing must be done continuously and always spread goodness. It teaches that giving a positive impact constantly and anywhere will provide good things in our lives, too. This is in line with the Hadith of Muslim Narration, which means: "Narrated from Abi Hurairah, the Prophet (peace be upon him) said: "Whoever invites guidance (good deeds), then he gets the same reward as the reward of those who follow him, without detracting from the slightest reward of the person who did it. Whoever leads astray, then he gets the sin in balance with the sin of those who follow him. Without diminishing the sin of the one who commits it." (HR Muslim).

**b. Motion**

It means that various tests in life will buffet us, but we must remain patient and steadfast. For every trial we find, we must keep trying and praying with laughter to pass the test. This also includes worship by praying and believing in Allah Almighty, as stated in the Qur'an surah Ali Imran verse 200, which means: "O believers, be patient and strengthen your patience and remain alert (at the borders of your country) and fear Allah, so that you may be lucky."

**c. Fathin and Catuk Bird Movement**

This movement means that we need to be careful in seeking halal sustenance to get blessings from Allah SWT. Working hard is one of the values of worship by fulfilling Allah SWT's commands to meet life's needs. Work according to Allah SWT's guidance and avoid his prohibitions. As explained in the Qur'an surah Al-Jumuah verse 10, which means: "When prayer has been offered, then scatter you on the earth; and seek the grace of God and remember God much that ye may be fortunate."

**1. The Value of Akidah**

Akidah is something someone believes to be the basis of human belief in Muslim life (Ghazali, 2021). The Qur'an and faith in Allah SWT guide one's confidence in carrying out the basis of religion. Man's conviction of the duty of obedience to Him and perfection of morals. The values of creed contained in the Malay Zapin Dance are as follows:

**a. Alif Movement**

It is one form of Akidah value in Malay Zapin Dance, where the letter Alif is believed to be one of the hijaiyah letters that contain our belief that God is One. There is no one but Allah Almighty. He is believing in the existence of God and all his power. This is in line with Surah Al-Ikhlâs verses 1-4, which means: "Say (Muhammad), "He is Allah, the One and Only One. God is the place to ask for all things. (Allah) neither begot nor begotten. And there is nothing equal to Him."

**b. Broken chick movement**

It is one of the movements that contains the meaning of don't despair. Indeed, God is always with us. The belief is that God always gives the best to his servants, and all his decrees have an exemplary meaning in our lives. Therefore, it is essential to always strive above all the tests and laws of God and never give up on passing every test. This is in line with the Qur'an

surah Yusuf verse 78, which means: "O my children, go you, then seek news about Joseph and his brother and do not despair of the mercy of Allah. Verily there is no despair of the grace of Allah, but of the unbelievers" (Q.S. Yusuf: 87)

### **c. Split Eight Movement Pattern**

One of the movement patterns has meaning regarding the Cardinal Directions. It gives the sense of perseverance that there are many paths we can take in carrying out God's commandments, and we believe that the way God gives has many courses and directions. This is in line with the Hadith, which states: "By Allah, there is no earthly life compared to the Hereafter, but only as one of you dips his hand in the ocean, so please see what his finger brings" (HR. Muslim)

## **3. Moral Values**

Morals are one of the essential things to maintain about character, behaviour, and ethics. Behaviour and ethics are conditions or traits that have permeated the soul and become personalities until various actions arise spontaneously and quickly without being made up or thinking (Amir, 2023). The values in the Malay Zapin Dance regarding Islamic Education Values regarding Morals, namely:

### **a. Siku Keluang Movement**

This movement has a meaning for us as humans to care about our surroundings. Care about the environment and between human beings. Wherever we are, we need to be polite. Just as if we intend to care about the mistakes of others and reprimand them for telling them what is good about them, we need to politely not blame them in a crowd. This is as taught in the Qur'an surah Al Isra verse 23: "And your Lord has commanded that you should not worship but Him and that you should do good to your father's mother as well as possible. If either of them or both come to an advanced age in your care, then do not say to either of them the word "ah" and do not yell at them and speak unto them glorious words." (Q.S Al-Isra: 23).

### **b. Movement to Ask for Tahto**

The movement means that we must remain humble and not brag because Pride and Pride are one of the prohibitions of Allah SWT, despite always being humble and sympathetic to various things. Do not be easily discouraged by boasting of the blessings that Allah SWT gives. This is in line with Surah Luqman verse 18, which means: "And do not turn your face away from man (because of pride) and do not walk on the earth arrogantly. Surely God does not like those who are proud and boastful." (QS. Luqman: 18).

### **c. Tahto Movement**

Closing the dance by saying thank you is also one of the values of Islamic education, teaching us to thank you if treated well and given help continually. It teaches us to appreciate all things, both small and big. This is also explained in the Hadith narrated by Ahmad: "Whoever does not give thanks for a little, he will not be able to give thanks for something much." (HR. Ahmad).

Here are various Islamic education values that can be learned and learned in the Malay Zapin Dance. Value cultivation can be interpreted as a form of application to something obtained from learning. Then carried out directly through intermediaries, attitudes and daily behaviours, explained at this stage, is an encouragement to create millennials who can maintain values and reject outside cultures that can dilute their own culture.

## Conclusion

Educational values are not only obtained from books or the scriptures. We can take so many positive things in this social life, one of which is in the form of art, namely dance, which has educational value in it and provides implied value from every movement, especially the Islamic Education Value found in the Malay Zapin Dance. In Zapin Dance, Malay has various Islamic Religious Education Values, including teaching Worship, Akidah, and Moral Values. We can take this positively as an example as a guideline for a good life.

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