



LEARNING ANGKLUNG AT SAUNG UDJO: THE EXPERIENCE OF STUDENTS OF THE P MM 3 PROGRAM AT THE INDONESIAN EDUCATION UNIVERSITY IN UNDERSTANDING AND PLAYING ANGKLUNG

BELAJAR ANGKLUNG DI SAUNG UDJO: PENGALAMAN MAHASISWA PROGRAM PMM 3 DI UNIVERSITAS PENDIDIKAN INDONESIA DALAM MEMAHAMI DAN MEMAINKAN ANGKLUNG

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.62567/micjo.v2i2.587>

Article info:

Submitted: 21/02/25

Accepted: 15/04/25

Published: 30/04/25

Abstract

This article presents the experiences of students from the Independent Student Exchange Program (PMM) 3 at the Indonesian Education University in understanding and playing angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo. From the results of the interviews conducted, it was revealed that before participating in this activity, most students had never tried playing angklung. However, after participating in the angklung learning activity at Saung Angklung Udjo, a significant increase in their skills was seen. In addition, students also showed an increase in understanding of the cultural values of angklung as a traditional musical instrument. Several factors that contributed to the success of this learning included the quality of teaching, adequate facilities, time and intensity of practice, and student motivation and interest. The positive experiences gained during learning at Saung Angklung Udjo not only improved technical skills, but also instilled cultural values and togetherness among students. This research is expected to provide valuable insights for the development of arts and culture education curriculum in Indonesia.

Keywords: Learning Angklung, Saung Angklung Udjo, Experience of PMM 3 Program Students



Abstrak

Artikel ini menyajikan pengalaman mahasiswa dari Program Pertukaran Mahasiswa Merdeka (PMM) 3 di Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia dalam memahami dan memainkan angklung di Saung Angklung Udjo. Dari hasil wawancara yang dilakukan, terungkap bahwa sebelum mengikuti kegiatan ini, sebagian besar mahasiswa belum pernah mencoba memainkan angklung. Namun, setelah mengikuti kegiatan belajar angklung di Saung Angklung Udjo, terlihat peningkatan yang signifikan dalam keterampilan mereka. Selain itu, mahasiswa juga menunjukkan peningkatan pemahaman mengenai nilai-nilai budaya angklung sebagai alat musik tradisional. Beberapa faktor yang berkontribusi terhadap keberhasilan pembelajaran ini antara lain kualitas pengajaran, fasilitas yang memadai, waktu dan intensitas latihan, serta motivasi dan minat mahasiswa. Pengalaman positif yang diperoleh selama pembelajaran di Saung Angklung Udjo tidak hanya meningkatkan keterampilan teknis, tetapi juga menanamkan nilai-nilai budaya dan kebersamaan di antara mahasiswa. Penelitian ini diharapkan dapat memberikan wawasan berharga untuk pengembangan kurikulum pendidikan seni dan budaya di Indonesia.

Kata Kunci: Belajar Angklung, Saung Angklung Udjo, Pengalaman Mahasiswa Program PMM 3

1. INTRODUCTION

Angklung art and other Sundanese cultural arts are present as an important part of the lives of the Sundanese people. Angklung cultural arts have various roles and functions for society. For example, the angklung is an integral part of the arts system that promotes a sense of togetherness among communities and strengthens the identity of the Sundanese people. Playing the angklung cannot be done alone, it must be done together, so that social ties become stronger .

love and appreciation for angklung was realized by establishing SAU. Saung Angklung Udjo, founded by Udjo Ngalagena in 1996, is committed to preserving and developing the art of angklung culture through education, production, and performances. Saung Angklung Udjo is not only a tourist destination, but also functions as an active learning center in teaching angklung playing techniques to the community. Through various educational programs offered, places This has succeeded in attracting the attention of tourists, both domestic and foreign , as well as making it a cultural symbol of Bandung (Oktaviani et al., 2024).

Udjo succeeded in exploring and developing angklung as a cultural art that can continue to exist and be sustainable in various conditions of the times through production activities, education, and angklung performances. In addition, Udjo was able to capture the social reality at that time where art was not just entertainment but could be a medium for education and a more interesting performance. Angklung also has a function as an educational tool, both inside and outside of school. Like other musical instruments (gamelan, flute/recorder, pianica/melodion, guitar, etc.), Angklung also functions as a medium/tool in achieving the goals of music education.

Saung Angklung Udjo is not only a tourist destination, but also an institution that plays a very important role in preserving and developing traditional Sundanese musical instruments, namely the angklung. Founded by Udjo Ngalagena, this place has become a symbol of Bandung culture that attracts tourists, both domestic and foreign. Saung Angklung Udjo has various learning programs for anyone who wants to learn more and learn how to play the



angklung. From the most basic to the most advanced class, everyone can join. The angklung performance at Saung Angklung Udjo always captivates the hearts of the audience. The combination of body movements, facial expressions, and the rhythm of the music from the angklung instrument produces a unique and entertaining performance. In addition to holding performances, Saung Angklung Udjo also produces various creative products from bamboo, including souvenirs and angklung musical instruments. Saung Angklung Udjo also provides teachings about the importance of preserving the environment, especially preserving bamboo forests as the main material for making angklung.

Angklung art is one of Indonesia's cultural heritages that is recognized internationally, especially after being recognized by UNESCO as an Intangible Cultural Heritage. Angklung art is one of Indonesia's cultural heritages that holds very high historical and social value, especially among Sundanese people. This music made from bamboo not only functions as a musical instrument, but also as a medium to strengthen cultural identity and a sense of togetherness within the community. Musthofa (2018) stated that angklung plays a crucial role in fostering a sense of solidarity between communities and strengthening the identity of the Sundanese people. Saung Angklung Udjo, as one of the centers for learning and performing angklung in Bandung, has contributed significantly in preserving and developing this cultural art.

Saung Angklung Udjo, as a center for learning and performing angklung, has made a significant contribution, very meaningful in preserving and developing arts and culture. Through various educational programs and performances, Saung Angklung Udjo not only teaches angklung playing techniques, but also conveys the cultural values contained in this art. This is in line with the research findings of Hermawan (2013), which shows that learning traditional arts can increase cultural awareness and identity among the younger generation.

The PMM program is a step taken by the Indonesian government to enrich students' learning experiences by providing study opportunities at various universities throughout Indonesia. UPI Bandung, as one of the leading universities in Indonesia, is active in this program and often involves PMM students in cultural activities, such as visits to Saung Angklung Udjo (Darmawan and Aliyyah, 2024). This activity offers students the opportunity not only to learn to play the angklung, but also to understand the social and cultural context behind the instrument. In this context, the learning experience at Saung Angklung Udjo becomes very valuable, because students not only learn to play the angklung, but also understand the social and cultural context behind the instrument. Learning angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo provides valuable hands-on experience for students, especially in the context of the PMM program, according to research from Gumilar (2024) revealed that direct learning experiences in a rich cultural environment can enrich students' insights and improve their interpersonal skills. Saung Angklung Udjo presents an authentic experience in exploring the richness of Sundanese culture. Students had the opportunity to enjoy a captivating angklung performance, learn to play the instrument, and interact with local artists. Saung Angklung Udjo is an interesting inspiration regarding efforts to preserve and develop local culture. Students can discover how important art and culture are in strengthening national unity.



However, although much research has been conducted on music and cultural learning, there is still a lack of studies that specifically examine students' experiences in the context of angklung learning at Saung Angklung Udjo (Putri, 2012). This shows the need for further exploration of students' experiences in learning angklung and the factors that influence their understanding and skills. Therefore, this study aims to describe the experiences of PMM 3 Program students from the Indonesian Education University in understanding and playing angklung, as well as the factors that influence their understanding and abilities or skills. It is hoped that this research can contribute to the development of arts and culture education curriculum, as well as strengthen efforts to preserve Indonesia's cultural heritage.

By understanding students' experiences in the context of angklung learning, it is hoped that more effective methods will be found in teaching arts and culture to the younger generation, so that Indonesian cultural heritage, especially angklung, can continue to be preserved and introduced to the wider community.

2. RESEARCH METHOD

This study uses a descriptive qualitative approach to understand the experiences of PMM 3 students at UPI in learning and playing angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo. The subjects of this study consisted of several students participating in the program. The research was conducted at Saung Angklung Udjo, with angklung learning activities carried out in October 2024. The data collected included primary data generated from participatory observation and in-depth interviews with students, as well as secondary data sourced from relevant literature. The research instruments involved observation, interview, and documentation methods. Data collection techniques included direct observation, in-depth interviews, and documentation collection. Data analysis will be carried out interactively, including the stages of data collection, reduction, presentation, and drawing conclusions.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION



Figure 1.1 1Angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo

Students who participated in the Independent Student Exchange Program (PMM) 3 at Saung Angklung Udjo experienced various experiences in learning and playing the angklung. Based on the results of the interviews conducted, many students had never played the angklung, while those who had experience were limited in number.

After attending training at Saung Angklung Udjo, the majority of students experienced significant improvements in their angklung playing skills. Some of them even managed to play certain songs. This finding shows the effectiveness of the learning method applied at Saung Angklung Udjo in providing basic angklung playing skills, with traditional music being able to improve students' technical skills and self-confidence. Almost all of them also felt more confident in playing the angklung after attending the training.

Furthermore, students' understanding of angklung as a traditional musical instrument has changed significantly. Most of them who previously had limited knowledge about the history and origins of angklung, after participating in this activity, their understanding of the role of angklung in Indonesian culture increased. They realized that angklung is not just a musical instrument, but an integral part of the cultural heritage that needs to be preserved. According to Musthofa (2018), a deeper understanding of traditional musical instruments can increase cultural awareness among the younger generation.

As for the Factors that Influence Students' Understanding and Abilities based on the data that has been collected, there are several main factors that influence students' understanding and abilities in playing the angklung, including:

1. Quality of Teaching at Saung Angklung Udjo

Students gave a positive assessment of the learning method at Saung Angklung Udjo which was considered very good and effective. Learning carried out with a direct and interactive approach allows them to learn in a more enjoyable and interesting way. The role of experienced teachers is also very important in creating a conducive learning atmosphere.

2. Facilities and Learning Environment

The facilities provided by Saung Angklung Udjo, such as adequate musical instruments and an authentic cultural atmosphere, also support the creation of a conducive learning environment. Most students feel that the environment at Saung Udjo is very



supportive of their learning process, providing a more in-depth and comprehensive experience.

3. Exercise Time and Intensity

Some students stated that longer and more intensive practice time could improve their skills further. Although they have felt improvements, more frequent training would accelerate the mastery of angklung playing techniques. This statement underlines the importance of consistency in practice to achieve better progress. Anwar (2022) emphasized that regular and intensive practice is crucial in mastering musical skills.

4. Motivation and Interest

Most of the students felt motivated to learn angklung because they saw it as a new and interesting experience. They felt happy to be able to learn traditional musical instruments directly from the experts at Saung Angklung Udjo. This intrinsic motivation greatly contributed to their success in learning process.

Most students gave very positive responses regarding their learning experience at Saung Angklung Udjo. They felt that this learning not only gave them skills in playing angklung, but also instilled deep cultural and togetherness values. One student said, “I am very happy to be able to learn angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo. The learning atmosphere is interactive and fun.” This experience not only enriched their knowledge, but also strengthened their love for Indonesian culture.

methods at Saung Udjo are generally informal and interactive, emphasizing direct experience and active participation. Some of the methods applied include:

- **Demonstration Method:** Teachers or artists at Saung Udjo provide direct examples of how to play the angklung, dance, or do other artistic activities.
- **Active Participation Method:** Visitors, especially children, are invited to directly try playing the angklung, dancing, or engaging in other art activities. This provides direct experience and enhances their understanding.
- **Play While Learning Method (Edutainment):** Learning is presented in a fun and interactive way, so that participants do not feel bored and absorb information more easily. Art performances are also part of the learning process.
- **Traditional Methods Passed Down from Generation to Generation:** Learning is also done traditionally, where knowledge and skills are passed down from generation to generation through direct interaction and observation.

4. CONCLUSION

Learning angklung at Saung Angklung Udjo in the Merdeka Student Exchange (PMM) 3 program at the Indonesian Education University offers a very meaningful experience for students. Through this activity, they not only gain basic skills in playing the angklung, but also increase their understanding of the history and cultural values contained in this traditional musical instrument.



Various factors contribute to the success of learning, including interactive teaching quality, adequate facilities, and high motivation and interest from students. In addition, the learning experience at Saung Angklung Udjo also instills values of togetherness and collaboration among students, which are very important for the development of their social skills.

Thus, angklung learning at Saung Angklung Udjo not only serves as a means to teach musical skills, but also as an effort to preserve and respect Indonesian cultural heritage. This research is expected to contribute to the development of arts and culture education curriculum in Indonesia, as well as encourage more students to get involved in traditional music learning.

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