

KALA SUNGSANG: RECORDING WORLD VOICES TO DRAW CREATIVE INNOVATIONS IN A NEW NORMAL ERA

Sahid Teguh Widodo¹

¹Universitas Sebelas Maret

*sahidteguh Widodo@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

Kala Sungsang is a term in Javanese which marks a situation where a major disaster has occurred and turned the situation upside down. The big disaster in the Javanese language itself is named by the term *pageblug*. That is how the Javanese people describe the covid-19 pandemic disaster that is still happening today. The form of this research is qualitative research which is considered appropriate to find a way out of dealing with a pandemic by recording the voices of the world from cultural experts around the world. Data were collected from eight informants from Indonesia, the Netherlands, Japan, India, England, America and Australia. The data analysis technique uses an interactive analysis model, by means of grouping and interpreting it carefully and thoroughly. The results showed that there was a similarity in opinion of each informant, with regard to future values and expectations. The dominant values that emerge are togetherness, persistence, improving on communication, self-strengthening, keep looking and generating new ideas, finding solutions, and always think positively. This research shows the determination and desire of world citizens to dare to face and help each other in handling the Covid-19 pandemic.

Keywords: covid-19 pandemic, new normal, pandemic handling strategy, global statement.

A. INTRODUCTION

Until now, the world community is still haunted by various feelings of anxiety, worry, fear, and doubt at a high level. The various forms of depicting this difficult situation are as if we are in a position one step away before despair finally arrives (Buana, 2020). The Covid 19 pandemic is the most terrifying experience that will leave a dark monument to a traumatic experience that can consciously leave us feeling pain and sorrow. Some data still show asymmetric fluctuations and absurds as a form of uncertainty and a lack of confidence that we can solve this common problem as soon as possible (Nurhalimah, 2020). Politics and international trade law are sufficient to give color to the scenario of a wounded civilization, apart from God's definite and indisputable law. However, on the other hand, the death toll continues to increase (Arum, 2020). The remnants of the traditions and passions of the human past still play the story of life that continues to ask for many casualties which anesthetize the fact that a new era of normality has arrived.

The painful experiences of the last two years have provided many lessons and corrected the ways and habits of human life. Those who have never been diagnosed as reactive or positive for Covid-19 experience terrible dreams and delusions of suffering (Buana, 2020). The lack of the ability to choose life or death is very confusing because it all places humans between spectral entities and the uncertain reality of life.

Meanwhile, for the Covid-19 survivors, they feel that a big storm has passed. However, who and what has been sacrificed so far have also given birth to a "new disease" which affects the mental and spiritual immunity of the wider community. It should be, all government authorities no longer silence

public voices and respect human rights more. The emergence of various responses, opinions, and criticisms is part of the way society reduces pain, erodes injuries, and options that can be realized to escape the stability of human civilization (Long et al., 2020).

It is difficult to forgive some people or organizations who are still trying to "play around" in this emergency (Nurhalimah, 2020). In several cases in Javanese society, new clusters emerged which were difficult to solve. The new cluster has the same characteristics, namely that it emerges from various inherent ceremonies and traditions, for example in the case of a bridal party ceremony, a funeral ceremony, a tradition of welcoming holidays, and in several cases it has emerged from office activities. Ironically, the conception of togetherness in the bonds of tradition inevitably bears sad death.

Zazek (2020) clearly states that a human cultural behavior that already has an ordered system, but instead becomes the source of sad chaos and tragedy. In fact, it is also the cause of a chain of panic, starting from an individual, collective anxiety, and developing into mass unrest in a relatively short time. The traditional system that has been arranged as a symbol of a civilization is currently being disrupted by a global panic. Humans today are only considered complete if they have physical and spiritual endurance. This is an analogy regarding the current human condition, healthy from three crises, namely the medical crisis (the epidemic itself), the economic crisis, and the psychological crisis (Lai et al., 2020). The three crises caused mass panic which resulted in public confusion.

Starting from some of these cases, thoughts emerged to study together, listen to and pay attention to cases that were "similar" that occurred in various countries in the world. The aim is to obtain a clear picture so that it can be used as material for consideration, learning, and data / information for decision making both individually, institutionally and at the state level (Okada et al., 2020) In other words, collective memory derived from a country affected by the covid-19 pandemic is very likely to become knowledge (feeling) for people in other countries who have the same experience. In fact, not a single country is completely free from the threat of Covid-19.

The Indonesian people and more than 200 countries around the world feel a big shock with this covid-19 pandemic. Every day the positive victims of Covid-19 and the death toll are increasing. The Covid-19 virus is increasingly difficult to control and continues to drain the power of the government to be able to take clear and definite steps to overcome it. The country of India has become evidence of an explosion of deaths that numbered hundreds of lives due to this pandemic (Susilo et al., 2020). Many things can be the cause, many events trigger an explosion in the number of sufferers and deaths from various sources. On the other hand, the Covid-19 virus has mutated and is increasingly showing clear symptoms of mass murder. Meanwhile, the solution is even more obscure and uncertain.

Corona virus is a name that refers to a group of viruses from the Orthocoronavirinae subfamily in the Coronaviridae family and the order Nidovirales (Yunus & Rezki, 2020). This virus can attack animals as well as humans and in humans the symptoms of an infection are similar to SARS and MERS, it's just that Covid-19 is more massive in development (Wahidah et al., 2020). Indonesia is also one of the countries affected by this outbreak. Arum (2020) added that the government and the full awareness of the public have tried to reduce the spread of the corona virus. However, it is still very limited in how to handle it in the form of appeals, prohibitions, and restrictions on social distancing. There are still members of the community who have different opinions and beliefs, but have also made quite effective efforts by implementing a local quarantine system to prevent the spread of this virus and so as not to infect more people (Nurhalimah, 2020).

Telaumbanua (2020) stated that the outbreak of the Covid-19 pandemic and the increasing number of sick and dead victims demanded the handling and role of the government that issued Law Number 6 of 2018 regarding Health Quarantine. The government's decision was deemed appropriate because the corona virus has so far been increasingly prevalent in the midst of the lives of many citizens because covid-

19 is a virus that can be transmitted through the air. The government has also issued Government Regulation Number 21 of 2020 and has also carried out mass testing measures. Since it was first discovered in China in December 2019, the number of positive cases of Covid-19 in the world has continued to increase. Based on the latest data from Worldometers, the number of Covid-19 cases in the world until May 2021 reached 167,515,043 cases (Pikiran Rakyat, 24 May 2021). There were an increase in daily cases in the last 24 hours as many as 476,672, 9,850 people died. There are three major strategies for handling Covid-19, including the following.

Promotive Strategy The form is an invitation to increase immunity to prepare the body to face the Covid-19 virus. The Indonesian government through the Ministry of Information and Information Technology has released efforts that can be made by the community, including: stopping smoking and consuming alcohol, regulating sleep patterns, and taking body supplements (Susilo et al., 2020). In addition, a clean and healthy lifestyle according to the direction of the World Health Organization (WHO), namely: washing hands regularly, maintaining a safe distance, cross-checking if there are symptoms of Covid-19 on the body. Other efforts can also be made by making short films that provide information about efforts to maintain safety from the dangers of Covid-19 and disseminated through social media that are now available and are widely used by the public.

Preventive Strategy. The formation of a special task force to accelerate the handling of Covid-19 which functions as a technical interpreter for the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic and has full support from all aspects of defense (Joharudin et al., 2020). Establishment of a task force inherent in community life, for example a fairly effective and efficient "looking after neighbors" program. **Curative Strategy.** There are several treatments given to Covid-19 patients, for example, by administering drugs that were previously used for outbreaks before the Sars-CoV2 disease, such as oseltamivir for bird flu outbreaks. For Covid-19 patients who suffer from pneumonia, medical intervention is carried out in the form of giving antibiotics and they are also asked to take high doses of vitamin C under the supervision of a doctor. If the patient suffers from a liver disorder, he will be given a hepatoprotector, which is a medicinal compound that can protect the liver from damage caused by viruses (Yunihastuti, 2020).

B. METHOD

The form of research that is considered appropriate and able to provide a complete picture is qualitative (Charmaz, 2000; Staruss & Crobin, 1998; Merriam, 2009). The choice of research form is based on the characteristics of the research problem, data sources, and research data (Marohaini, 2004). This research involved figures who have influence from various countries who have cooperation with the Center for Excellence in Javanology Science, Sebelas Maret University. They are informants who are sources of research data by sending video recordings of personal opinions regarding efforts to overcome Covid-19 in the context of the New Normal. Based on the characteristics of the problem, relations, and time constraints, it was decided that eight informants were selected by purposive sampling from Indonesia, England, Australia, the Netherlands, Japan, India and the United States. Each informant was asked to collect video recordings containing personal opinions related to the handling of the Covid-19 pandemic in their respective countries. All of the research data were in verbal form and then transcribed carefully and thoroughly. The next step is to create a data display so that it is easy to interpret the data by making groupings based on the captured keywords. This way of working is non-interactive by activating three components of research, namely data reduction, data presentation, and verification (Miles & Huberman, 1992). This form of qualitative research was chosen considering the possibility of having a multi-perspective view that occurs during the research. Answers to various research problems are collected and processed critically to obtain an appropriate recommendation.

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Structure and Content of the Statement

The eight sources all submitted their opinions using the film recording media. Video title: Statements on Global Future Life, Channel: PUI Javanologi UNS. Video source: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R2e22qG4FYE&t=49s>. The duration of the films sent varies widely, including as follows.

Table 1. Video Duration and Background

No.	Names	Institution	Duration (minutes-seconds)	Setting
1	Prof. Jamal Wiwoho	Universitas Sebelas Maret	8.01	Rektor UNS Office
2	Prof. Hywel Coleman	Univ. of Leeds	4.12	His house
3	Marik Bellen, MA.	KITLV	4.11	Winter in Netherland
4	Prof. George Quinn	ANU	4.35	His House
5	Dr. Diane Butler	Dharma Nature	6.02	Candi Sukuh
6	Prof. Josaphat Tetuko S.	CIBA University	3.50	His Office CIBA Japan
7	Prof. Sunaina Singh	Nalanda University	4.22	Nalanda University Office
8	Prof. Hiroshi Ito	MIHO Institute	8.05	Miho Institute Office

Table 2. Contents of Statement of Experts from Several Countries

No.	Names	Institution	
1	Prof. Jamal Wiwoho	Universitas Sebelas Maret	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our ancestors have taught us to be able to solve various problems together faithfully • Don't ever give up • We will get through this together and life must go on
2	Prof. Hywel Coleman	University of Leeds	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Together as a world community we will find a solution
3	Marik Bellen, MA.	KITLV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pandemic has taught us about the importance of communication with each other and how we can maintain contacts across borders
4	Prof. George Quinn	ANU	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening the government and health services • The current pandemic closes the economy and causes a crisis
5	Dr. Diane Butler	Dharma Nature	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The world's enlightener is the reality of union • All things are present within you • The macro-cosmos or the micro-cosmos there is now no difference
6	Prof. Josaphat Tetuko	CIBA University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Let's continue to create new ideas in culture development, science, and technology

			<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Don't give up and let's do our best to our community to solve the pandemic by helping each other
7	Prof. Sunaina Singh	Nalanda University	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We should be as positive as possible • We need to move forward with all positivity with dedication, commitment, responsibility, diligence, and focus
8	Prof. Hiroshi Ito	MIHO Institute	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be careful by always sterilizing our hands and also wearing masks

Innovations to Overcome the Covid-19 Pandemic

The corona virus does not only attack human physical health, but also spirituality. Our perspective on the world around us and things as simple as interactions have changed completely in terms of the relationship between our body and soul, as well as in terms of the micro and macro cosmos. Physical distancing, social distancing, urgency to stay healthy, working from home, staying at home, the appeal of personal discipline such as "don't touch your eyes, nose and mouth!" openly correcting the values of decency and social ethics that have been upheld so far.

Each of us who are accustomed to and spoiled with the digital world is unconsciously getting worse with the hyperreality phenomenon of the word "virus", because it is attached to the digital virus reference that destroys the space of human imagination. Hoax news is difficult to avoid because we are used to receiving news that we don't even know the truth about (boomerang effect). How do we create innovation in this chaotic situation? The psychological burden of the Covid-19 pandemic is quite heavy. 5 responses can be identified in a corrective view; (a) Rejection of what happened, (b) Excessive anger and distrust towards what happened and to a level of frustration, (c) Efforts and hope to keep being given a chance to live, (d) depression, despair because it seems like death is before us, and (e) hope is dark. It's like waiting on death row. Life after the COVID-19 pandemic can return to normal, but the "new normal" will be different. We must live a more fragile life, accompanied by constant threats (Zizek, 2020).

Of course there will be a fear of learning a new way of life especially if it is heavier and colored by new forms of threats and changes in the entire nature of living things. These are "mind viruses" or "parasitic entities" that probably colonized humans after Covid-19. The prolonged trauma to both the victim and the surrounding community leaves the same scars. We must immediately build a real step even from small fragments (der nie aufhebbare Rest!). We all agree not to rely on market panic, the rule of law and market ethics. We can say that this is "Independent Innovation". Escorted facilities and infrastructure still have narrow gaps to choose from. Independent Innovation !!

Value of Global Statement

The voices of knowledge experts in the eight countries that were the source of this research indicate the existence of moral, social and cultural values can be described as follows.

Togetherness. The Covid-19 pandemic is a world disaster. More than 200 countries around the world feel this disaster as a reality, test and challenge for all mankind to endure and Together and help each other to survive. The corona virus cannot be handled partially, but must be tackled holistically, which includes efforts to anticipate, suppress its development, treat the sick, reduce the impact of death, and maintain physical and mental health after the pandemic. Togetherness is a choice, a collaborative safe resolution for the whole world community that must be chosen and guarded together so that people can be free from the deadly threat of the Covid 19 pandemic.

Persistence to Survive

Human civilization since the beginning of life on earth has always been a test that can be understood positively to show the quality of life on earth. There is no giving up in life to reach a higher level of quality. Giving up means giving up on life. In fact, the main task of humanity is to always strive for the special characteristic that life still exists. The efforts made can be very diverse, depending on the quality of each challenge. For tropical countries (Indonesia, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea, Congo, Brunei, Singapore, Philippines, Brazil, Madagascar, Suriname, Colombia, Peru, Sri Lanka, and Fiji), of course the cases are different from sub-tropical countries (Iran, Iraq, Nepal, China, Japan, North and South Korea, South Africa, Egypt, southern Australia, Chile, Turkey, etc.). The diversity of handling is a sign that humans will never give up.

Improving on Communication

Earth people are a community that is connected to one another. Communication is very important so that each group can connect and each can learn from one another. Communication patterns become important, namely communication that is healthy, correct, and useful. Communication is a pillar that supports connectedness, relations and the formation of good cooperation, bilaterally, multilaterally and globally.

Self Strengthening

Corona virus teaches us to maintain and strengthen ourselves. Some of the dominant and strategic areas for strengthening priority are: (1) Health. (2) Economy, (3) mental and psychological, (4) Education, (5) social life, (6) Infrastructure and defense. It turns out that it is not only a health and economic problem, but there are also many areas that have urgency to handle. Therefore, we need a way to strengthen ourselves nationally, regionally, and internationally to better safeguard civilization.

Continuing and Creating New Ideas

Zizek (2020) says that we are in the same ship. Life must go on. There are still many challenges that must be answered and resolved properly. Humans should not be angry, afraid, antipasti, feel haunted, or feel bad because that would be debilitating. Strength is the main asset. Meanwhile, the basis is a strong desire to continue to innovate in all areas of life.

Think positively

Think positively! What is happening now is a part of life that must be passed, fought for, and overcome together. Positive thoughts will make us strong and able to overcome various obstacles and obstacles in solving these various problems.

This research tries to record various opinions of experts from various countries with various efforts to overcome Covid-19 based on the background of their respective countries and cultures. Some important notes, are (1) There is almost the same awareness of the current state of the Covid-19 Pandemic. (2) The Covid-19 pandemic situation engraves the memory of the world community with different cases, but in the form of the same large memory. What is the chronology, distribution, victims who fell due to the Covid-19 pandemic, and the cases that occurred. (3) this big event should have given birth to new knowledge of the world community. The world views, traditions and assumptions of the past are unlikely to happen again. Several sciences were born which renew old theoretical concepts which are increasingly realized that it will not happen again. (4) Positive thoughts, creativity, and innovation as an effort to answer natural selection through the Covid-19 pandemic will create new wisdom for humankind to undergo civilization in a new era of normality.

D.CONCLUSION

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded that (1) The voices of the informants from various countries show the similarity of determination and spirit. Several different variants can be summarized to be more concise and interesting. This method is very effective so that these messages can

be captured and used as a reference for mankind affected by the Covid-19 pandemic. (2) It can be concluded that there are several distinctive values of the sound of this world. Overall, it can help in dealing with the Covid-19 pandemic. (3) The main theme of these voices is togetherness, persistence, communication, self-strengthening, creating new ideas, and always think positively.

REFERENCES

- Arum, R. (2020). Pembatasan Sosial di Indonesia Akibat Virus Corona Ditinjau dari Sudut Pandang Politik. LawArXiv. <https://doi.org/10.31228/osf.io/g8ny3>
- Buana, D. R. (2020). Analisis Perilaku Masyarakat Indonesia dalam Menghadapi Pandemi Virus Corona (Covid-19) dan Kiat Menjaga Kesejahteraan Jiwa. SALAM: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar-I, 7(3), 217-226. <https://doi.org/10.15408/sjsbs.v7i3.15082>
- Charmaz, K. (2000). Constructivist and Objectivist Grounded Theory. In N. K. Denzin & Y. Lincoln (Eds.), Handbook of qualitative research (2nd ed., pp. 509–535). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage
- Joharudin, A., Septiadi, M. A., Maharani, S., Aisi, T. D., & Nurwahyuningsih, N. (2020). Panic Syndrom Covid-19: Penekanan Terhadap Kebijakan Yang Diberikan. Jurnal Perspektif, 4(1), 44-53.
- Lai, C.-C., Shih, T.-P., Ko, W.-C., Tang, H.-J., & Hsueh, P.-R. (2020). Severe acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) and corona virus disease-2019 (COVID-19): the epidemic and the challenges. International Journal of Antimicrobial Agents, 55(3), 105924.
- Long, C., Xu, H., Shen, Q., Zhang, X., Fan, B., Wang, C., Li, H. (2020). Diagnosis of the Coronavirus disease (COVID-19): rRT-PCR or CT?. European Journal of Radiology, 126, 108961.
- Marohaini, Y. (2004). *Penyelidikan kualitatif: Pengalaman kerja lapangan kajian*. Kuala Lumpur: Penerbit Universiti Malaya.
- Merriam, S. B. (2009). *Qualitative research A guide to design and implementation*. San Francisco, CA Jossey-Bass.
- Miles, M. B., & Huberman, A. M. (1994). *Qualitative data analysis: An expanded sourcebook* (2nd ed.). Sage Publications, Inc. Abstract.
- Nurhalimah, N. (2020). Upaya Bela Negara Melalui Sosial Distancing Dan Lockdown Untuk Mengatasi Wabah Covid-19 (Efforts to Defend the Country Through Social Distancing and Lockdown to Overcome the COVID-19 Plague). Available at SSRN 3576405.
- Nurhalimah, S. (2020). Covid-19 dan Hak Masyarakat atas Kesehatan. SALAM: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar-I, 7(6), 543-554. <https://doi.org/10.15408/sjsbs.v7i6.15324>
- Okada, P., Buathong, R., Phuygun, S., Thanadachakul, T., Parnmen, S., Wongboot, W., Vachiraphan, A. (2020). Early transmission patterns of coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) in travellers from Wuhan to Thailand, January 2020. Eurosurveillance, 25(8), 2000097.
- Pakpahan, A. K. (2020). Covid-19 Dan Implikasi Bagi Usaha Mikro, Kecil, Dan Menengah. Jurnal Ilmiah Hubungan Internasional, 59-64. 188 Jurnal Manajemen dan Organisasi (JMO), Vol. 11 No. 3, Desember 2020, Hal. 179-188
- Siti Nurhalimah. (2020). Covid-19 dan Hak Masyarakat atas Kesehatan. Salam: Jurnal Sosial dan Budaya Syari vol. 7.
- Strauss, A., & Corbin, J. (1998). *Basics of qualitative research: Grounded theory procedures and techniques* (2nd ed.). Thousand Oaks, CA: Sage.
- Susilo, A., Rumende, C. M., Pitoyo, C. W., Santoso, W. D., Yulianti, M., Sinto, R., Cipto, R. (2020). Coronavirus Disease 2019: Tinjauan Literatur Terkini. Jurnal Penyakit Dalam Indonesia, 7(1), 45-67. <https://doi.org/10.7454/jpdi.v7i1.415>
- Telaumbanua, D. (2020). Urgensi Pembentukan Aturan Terkait Pencegahan Covid 19 di Indonesia. Qalamuna- Jurnal Pendidikan, Sosial, dan Agama 12(1), 59-70.

- Wahidah, I, Septiadi, M. A., Rafqie, M. C. A., Hartono, N. F. S., Athallah, R (2020). Pandemi Covid-19: Analisis Perencanaan Pemerintah dan Masyarakat dalam Berbagai Upaya Pencegahan. *Jurnal Manajemen dan Organisasi (JMO)*, Vol. 11, Hal. 179-188.
- Yunihastuti, E. (2020). Coronavirus Disease 2019: Tinjauan Literatur Terkini. *Jurnal Penyakit Dalam Indonesia*, 7(1), 45-67. <https://doi.org/10.7454/jpdi.v7i1.415>
- Yunus, N. R., & Rezki, A. (2020). Kebijakan Pemberlakuan Lock Down Sebagai Antisipasi Penyebaran Corona Virus Covid-19. *SALAM: Jurnal Sosial Dan Budaya Syar-I*, 7(3), 227- 238.
- Zizek, S. (2020). *Pandemik! Covid 19 Mengguncang Dunia*. Yogyakarta: Independen.