

**NYAI UNDANG THE FAME OF QUEEN OF
KUPANG ISLAND**
Nyai Undang Ratu Rupawan dari Pulau Kupang

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NYAI UNDANG THE FAME OF QUEEN OF KUPANG ISLAND

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Advisory Board	Dadang Sunendar Emi Emilia Gufran Ali Ibrahim
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Language Development and Cultivation Agency
Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia
Jalan Daksinapati Barat IV, Rawamangun, Jakarta
Telepon (021) 4706287, 4706288, 4896558, 4894546
Pos-el: badan.bahasa@kemdikbud.go.id
www.badanbahasa.kemdikbud.go.id



Cerita Rakyat Kalimantan Tengah

**NYAI UNDANG
RATU RUPAWAN
DARI PULAU KUPANG**

Ditulis oleh

Ai Kurniati



NYAI UNDAANG RATU RUPAWAN DARI PULAU KUPANG

Penulis : Ai Kurniati
Penyunting : Triwulandari
Ilustrator : Aji Mei
Penata Letak: Desman

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Foreword

Literature work is not only series of word but it also talks about life, both realistically and idealistically of human. If it is realistic, the literature work usually contains life experiences, good model, and wisdom which have been added various style and imagination along with it. Meanwhile, if it idealistic, the literature work contains moral lecture, good character, advices, philosophical symbols, culture and other things related to human life. The life itself is very diverse, varies, and full of various problems and conflicts faced by humans. The diversity in humans life also affects to the diversity of literature work because the contents are inseparable from civilized and dignified humans life.

The literature works that dealing with life utilizes language as medium of deliverance and imaginative art as its *cultural land*. On the basis of the language medium and imaginative art, literature is multidimensional and multi-interpretative. Using language medium, imaginative art and cultural dimension, literature deliver messages to be reviewed or analyzed from various perspectives. The outcome of that perspective depends greatly on who is reviewing and analyzing with various socio-cultural and knowledge background. There is a time when a literary reviewer reviews from the point of view of metaphor, myth, symbol, power, ideology, economy, politics, and culture can be refuted by other reviewers who see from perspective of sound, referent, or irony. Even so, Heraclitus said, "However opposite they work together and from different directions, the most beautiful harmony emerges".

There are many lessons that we can get from reading literature, one of which is reading folktales that are adapted or reprocessed into children's stories. The results of reading literature always inspire and motivate readers to be creative in

finding something new. Reading literature can trigger further imagination, open enlightenment, and add insights. For this reason, we express our gratitude for the processors for the story. We also express our appreciation and gratitude to the Head of the Coaching Center, Head of the Learning Division, and Head of the Subdivision of Modules and Teaching Materials and staffs for all the efforts and hard works carried out until the realization of this book.

Hopefully this storybook is not only useful as a reading material for students and the community to foster a culture of literacy through the National Literacy Movement program, but also useful as an enrichment of our knowledge of past life that can be utilized in addressing current and future life developments.

Jakarta, June 2016

Regards,
Prof. Dr. Dadang Sunendar, M. Hum.

Preface

Literary works are believed to be a mean of forming a noble personality and character. Nyai Undang: The Fame of Queen of Kupang Island is one of the treasures of Central Kalimantan oral literature. This story tells of a beautiful queen who has the courage to defend her self-esteem and country. The values of nationalism must be embedded in every citizen. Hopefully, this story can be an inspiration, inspiring nationalist values in Indonesian children heart.

On this occasion, the author expressed his sincere gratitude to the Head of Language Development Center of Language Development and Cultivation Agency, and Story Writing Committee of 2016 National Literacy Movement which gave the opportunity for the author to present this interesting story.

Palangkaraya, April 2016

Ai Kurniati

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NYAI UNDANG THE FAME OF QUEEN OF KUPANG ISLAND

1. The Fame of Queen of Kupang Island

In a little island, which is currently familiar as Kalimantan (Borneo), there was flowing many wide rivers, one of which was Kapuas River located at West Kalimantan and Central Kalimantan – this story was said to happen in the latter.

Once upon a time, the fame of Pulau Kupang was unquestionable. The exotica that overlaid between wide the jungle and Kapuas River was truly pampering. The wild animals, even, still could live freely, keeping up the harmony of life.

Hundreds or even thousands of kinds of authentic wood from Kalimantan had substantiated the strength of Kalimantan's jungles: *banua*, *singkai*, *gaharu*, *ulin* (the huge and waterproof one), and any others. In addition, such genuinely wild animals of Borneo as *Bekantan* (the monkey-like species with a long nose), *tingang* bird, and even *orang utan* (the human-like species) could live prosperously over there.

There lived many crocodile-rivers spending their spare time over the swamps, and also a snake and other reptiles, jazzing up the nuance of Pulau Kupang. The harmony between the forests and rivers surrounding Pulau Kupang gave impact to the society to get

into a peaceful life. Stilt houses *betang*, one of the symbols of the society in Pulau Kupang always gave remarkable memories to those leaving them away.

The society in Pulau Kupang was known as *Dayak Kapuas*. They lived in peace and security. The modesty found in the way they lived their life invited people to get interested. They lived their life in a very simple way, just like following the stream and nothing to lose. Nothing happened without any enforcement. Each of the people there had a specific role, no one offended each other. If there happened, the customary law would be decided.

In Pulau Kupang, it was told that there was a brave and beautiful queen. Her bravery and beauty had been widely well-known throughout the country. Even, all the society throughout Pulau Kupang did adore and love her.

One day, there lived a magically-powerful young man, named as *Temanggung Sempung*. He was said as the brave, tough, and hardworking man. In addition, he loved to go wandering. *Temanggung Sempung* married to a lady, called as Nyai Nunyang. They, further, had gifted a beautiful daughter named Nyai Undang. She was growing up to be adorable. Besides, she was very smart and easy to understand what their parents taught to her. She was also good in personality, brave, and confident. It was unquestionable that she made friend with so many people. For that reason, she was loved by all the society in Pulau Kupang.

When playing with her friends, Nyai Undang apparently had a sense of leadership among them. Even though she was female, she did not even feel reluctant to take a lead in a war game.

“Who will be the commander, folks?” asked one of her friends when playing in the backyard of her stilt house.

“I will!” replied Nyai Undang to her friend. Afterward, the game was very enjoyable after she took a lead.

Before any game was played, all her friends would be waiting for her. In the sport games like chasing each other or chopping with all her male and female friends, Nyai Undang often won the game. However, if on one occasion, she lost to her friends, she would be sincere to receive.

“That’s not the big deal if I lose to play *gasing* (something spinning). In another chance, I must win it. I need to create the better one,” said Nyai Undang full of spirit. Her sense of bravery was obvious, to become her future’s provision.

Nyai Undang was as beautiful as his mother, Nyai Nunyang. Her beauty was just like the blossoming flowers. No wonder if their childhood adored her beauty so much.

“Nyai, why are you so beautiful?” asked her friend.

“All the females were destined to be beautiful. You’re too. We are because we are female,” said Nyai Undang wisely. Her beauty

never got her arrogant and feeling superior among her friends. Counterproductively, she was very morally-equipped. As a proof, she truly loved and adored all her friends.

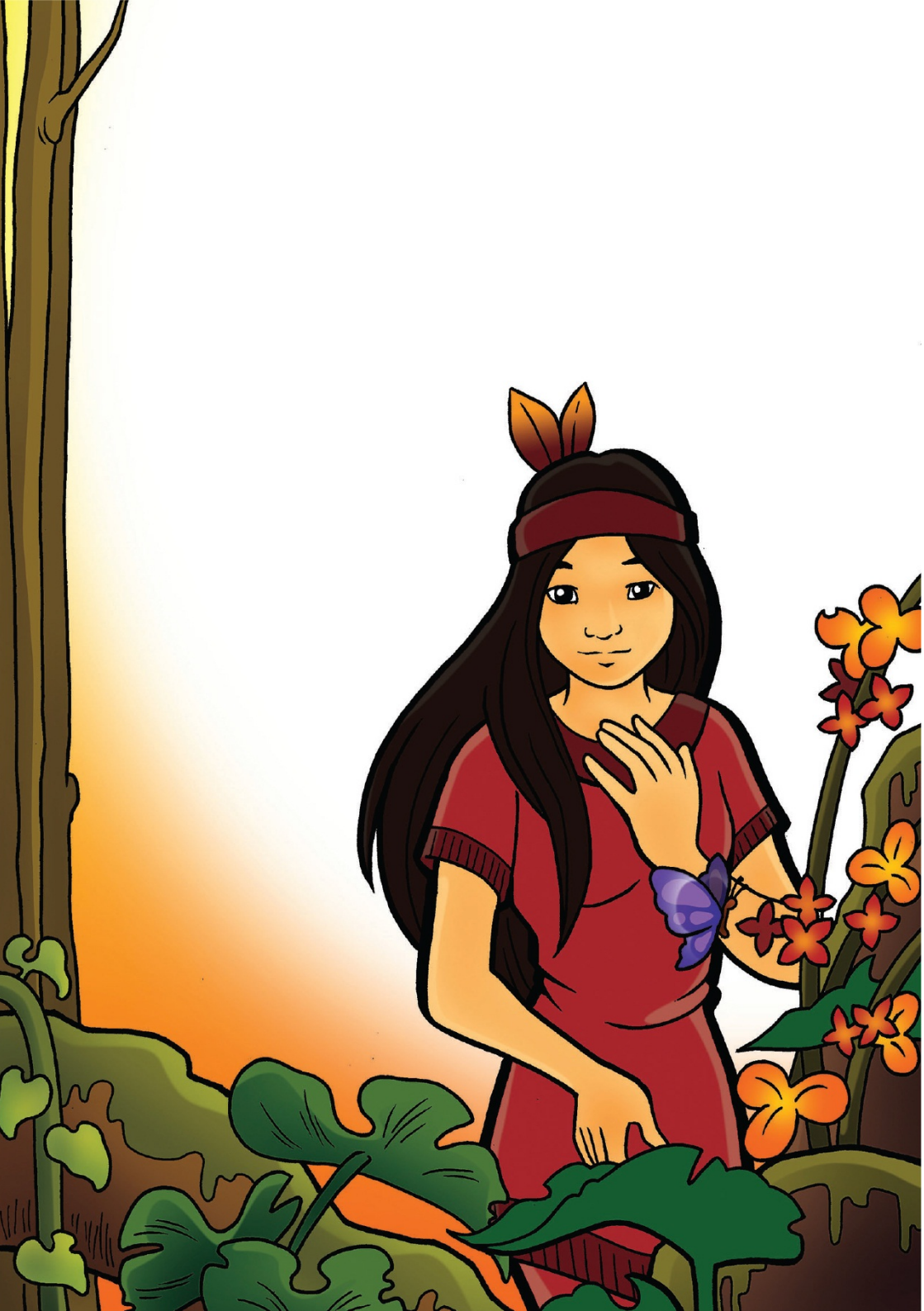
“We need to love each other. That’s friendship. If one of us get sick, all of us do too,” she added.

“Every friendship must experience any trouble, but stay being my best friends,” requested Nyai Undang to her friends. Hers were so many, even some of whom came from beyond Pulau Kupang.

Nyai Undang was well-knowledgeable, graceful, and wise. Despite her childhood age, Nyai Undang was truly respected. Obvious, her name was very famous throughout and across the country. In addition to his smartness and magical power, her beauty was so angelic and unquestionable.

“Love, Dad wants you to grow up as an adorable lady, not only beautiful in appearance, but also in personality, tough and brave,” said *Temanggung* Sempung to his one and only daughter. The little Nyai Undang was listening to him carefully without any interruption.

“I believe that someday you’d take a lead this country responsibly. Look after it wisely and honestly. Put love to your people, heartedly. But, you also need to be firm, brave, and confident. Get those committing evil sentenced!” said his father while clapping her shoulder.



“Wherever we’re supposed to be, we should belong to the truth. It was a fixed price. Don’t turn to be evil. Evilness, in fact, will get you in sorrow,” added his father.

“Life is about struggle. Life should be won. Don’t expect losses. The end of life is death. If we’ve been at the end, we couldn’t make any struggle.” Again, his father taught Nyai Undang the most valuable learning in life.

The childhood teachings had turned her to be the one who was very strong, having a strong stand, and responsible. She did not even want to show off who she actually was at all. She just played like other children did. However, her sense of leadership and wisdom was obviously seen, often. She never felt reluctant to help his friends in trouble.

When she was a teenager, Nyai Undang was officially granted as the Queen of Pulau Kupang. She was taking a lead Pulau Kupang by her wisdom. She was loving and loved by all the society in Pulau Kupang.

Every single day, she was walking around the kingdom to take a look the condition of her society. She was always smiling at and greeting all her society. She tried her best to listen to people’s complaints, then attempted to look for the solution. Her wisdom got her much more loved.

Day by day, the news about her wisdom and leadership of the beautiful Nyai Undang had been widely spread out throughout and across Kalimantan Island (Borneo).

2. King Sawang, the Lord of Ocean

One of the people who had heard about the fame of Pulau Kupang with its queen was King Sawang. King Sawang's kingdom was great and well-off. He was renowned as the rich because of having a tough trading army. He owned some gigantic ships alongside the sailormen, known as strong and heroic. The armies of King Sawang was the lord of the ocean; thus King Sawan was well-known as the Lord of Ocean.

When thinking of the prosperity of Pulau Kupang, King Sawang was often imagining one thing – what a life it would be if he could conquer Pulau Kupang – let alone if he also could get the queen fallen in love with him. Day by day, his desire was getting bigger. Every day he heard many people talking about the prosperity of Pulau Kupang and also the beauty of Nyai Undang. That pushed him to set his heart strongly on marrying to Nyai Undang as well as taking a lead in Pulau Kupang. His wish should be a reality. Never did he expect a failure.

On a destined day, King Sawang had prepared his ships to depart to Pulau Kupang. Further, he went there with his seven giant and armed ships, sailing over the ocean. He attached his ships with various stuff which looked dazzling and expensive.

The ships were operated by many armies, very brave and powerfully-armed. Tens of days, the entourage of King Sawang

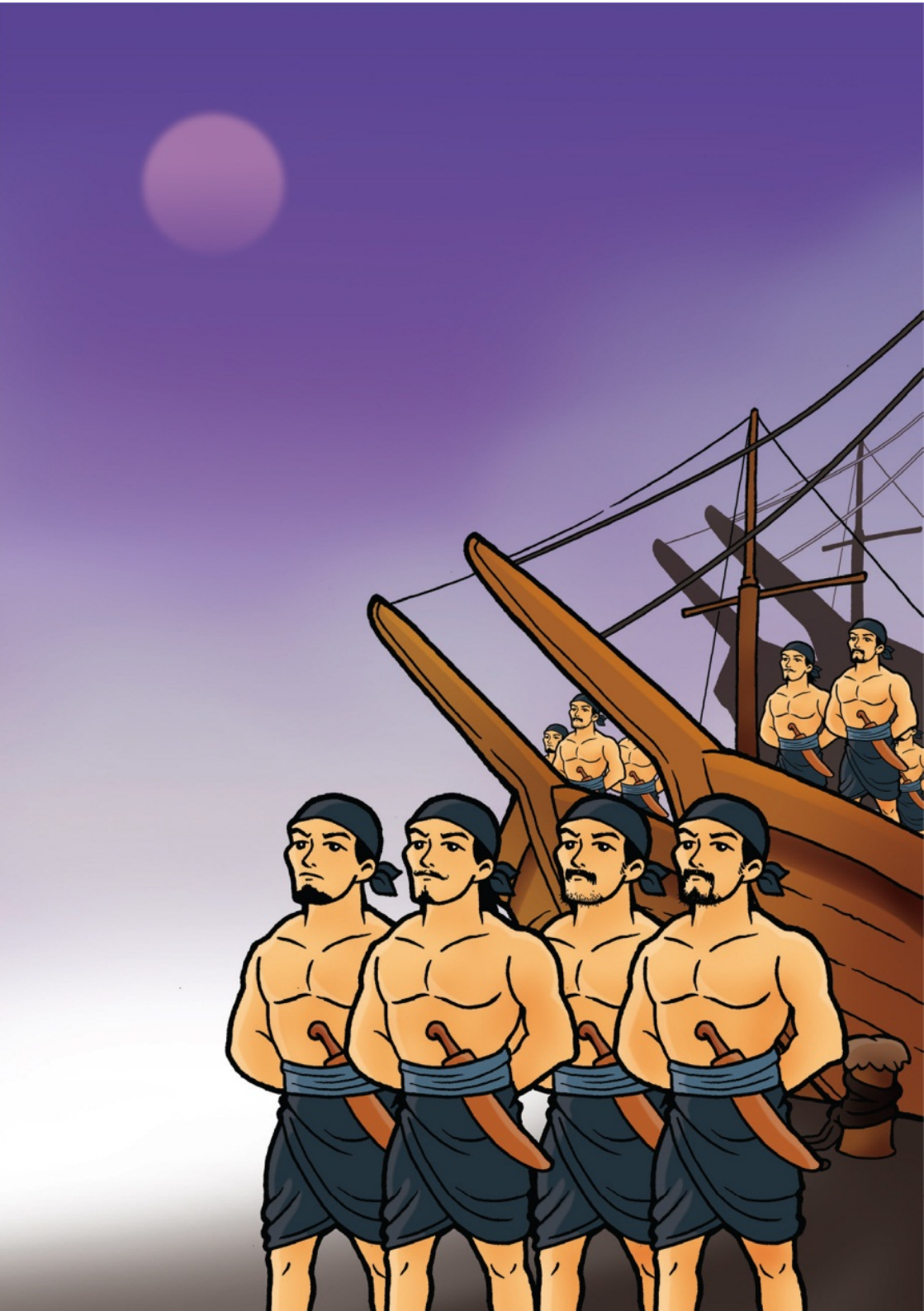
had passed through the waves along the ocean, heading to Pulau Kupang. That country was located close to the huge river, *Kapuas* River. The capital city of Pulau Kupang was smaller as that of the kingdom of King Sawang, but it was surrounded by a beautiful and picturesque forest. Its exotica was just like a flower blossoming in the middle of a bush.

“What a beautiful country. The land’s so fruitful, and the society’s so prosperous. That’s unquestionable that here lived the very beautiful and famous queen,” said King Sawang when looking at Pulau Kupang from his well-decorated chamber.

“You’re right, Your Majesty! This exotic country was led by the gorgeous queen, just like you, Your Majesty, well-known as The Lord of the Ocean. To my mind, it’s righteously that you be with Nyai Undang in a marriage,” said the advisor of King Sawang while kneeling down.

“If so, I’ll get out of the ship and meet Nyai Undang. I can’t wait to witness her beauty,” said King Sawang.

“I’m sorry, Your Majesty. In my opinion, that’s not a good way, for the great king like you, to propose a queen,” interrupted the advisor.



“Seriously?” King Sawang was shocked. “Then, what’s the best way?” he asked.

“As far as I’m concerned, it’d be better if you send off a messenger. You don’t need to directly head to her kingdom. She still has a mother, *Ibu Suri Nunyang* who also lives in her country. For that reason, you need to send off the messenger for your intention, Your Majesty. That’s my suggestion, Your Majesty,” said the advisor.

“Ha ... ha ... ha! You’re right, uncle. I’m in rush to meet Nyai Undang. Is it true that her beauty overthrows all the ladies I’ve ever met? Alright. Be fast! Meet her mother. Choose the one you prefer, uncle!” commanded King Sawang.

“Roger that, Your Majesty! I’ll do your command. Now, I’ll depart to her palace and meet her mother, *Ibu Suri Nunyang*,” the messenger did not talk much any longer. Fast-lightning, he was leaving King Sawang.

“Ha-ha ... If she were mine, what a life mine would be! I’ll show the world who I actually am, the tough Lord of Ocean.” His daydreaming had got him unconscious. He was not aware that everything in the world was in the Almighty God’s hand.

King Sawang set his heart on marrying to Nyai Undang. He did not even care about his self-esteem and grace as the king. The

king, in essence, should be wise and full of consideration before deciding something, shouldn't he?

The king was to think about and consider everything very carefully. King Sawang had lost his mind just because of his intention to witness the beautiful queen of Pulau Kupang.

During his waiting, King Sawang often laughed and talked to himself while daydreaming of his luck to marry the beautiful Nyai Undang. His subordinates just stared at his king from distance. The tough king apparently had thoughtlessly lost his mind. Therefore, people just shook their heads when witnessing him.

“Oh, I'm completely mindless. Along the day, I'm just thinking about Nyai Undang. Even I've already been in love before seeing her, let alone after I'm in face to face with her. That would be a perfect time as I'm truly taking a lead, conquering whomever I want,” he thought.

All the society in Pulau Kupang were amazed by the armies of King Sawang. It was the first time for the modest society like them to witness their marvel. They felt astonished and half-worried about their arrival at Pulau Kupang, Afterward. Even though they had been well-understood and truly relied on their queen, they were still feeling anxious. They were concerned that

King Sawang would be very ruthless to their queen, Nyai Undang, the one they loved so much.

“Keep calm, son, Queen Nyai Undang couldn’t be dazzled by wealth. *Temanggung* Sempung, her father, did not teach so,” said an old man to his grandson in the middle of the public crowd in Pulau Kupang.

“Nyai Undang was a respectful lady. She couldn’t be hypnotized just by gold and money. Both are nothing without any grace and self-esteem,” said another.

King Sawang was very well-off as if he were the lord of everything. He supposed that Nyai Undang would receive his proposal. He had not been aware yet that arrogance would drag people upon the evilness. In contrary, the humbleness and wisdom would send them off to the goodness and bless.

3. The Messenger of King Sawang

The advisor of King Sawang soon asked for permission to leave him. He immediately arranged the parcel to be given as the gift from King Sawang to *Ibu* Suri Nunyang. He had chosen some soldiers to keep him company. By a small boat, they got off and headed to the palace of *Ibu* Suri Nunyang.

Further, she asked about the intention of her guests' arrival from a very distant area from the kingdom. Afterward, the messenger stated the intention of their arrival, which was that King Sawang would like to propose Nyai Undang.

The arrival of the entourage of King Sawang factually had been heard by *Ibu* Suri Nunyang. She had been accustomed to receiving the messengers who intended to deliver what their king wanted to do upon his daughter, proposing Nyai Balau. She would object to them, pleasantly. If they got disappointed, she was not that worried about it as Nyai Undang had her own authority. No one could take control of her.

But, at that time, *Ibu* Suri Nunyang was complexly anxious. She had known well about Lord of Ocean. He came with his well-armed troops. In addition, King Sawang had been used to getting all he wanted by so many ways. If he could not get what he wanted by the good ways, he would commit the bad ones. If his

soldier was rejected, he would be furious as he disliked being objected.

“Dear the soldier of King Sawang, it’s such an honored thing to get a proposal from the well-off King Sawang, the Lord of Ocean, for Nyai Undang. But, would he mind receiving the fact that Nyai Undang actually has yet to wish for marriage? She’s still too young. She’s now still learning to be a good leader for her people,” said *Ibu Nunyang* explaining.

“The wise *Ibu Suri*, that’s unfortunate that the Queen of Pulau Kupang doesn’t wish for marriage. Our king, King Sawang, deems that it’s the perfect time for her to marry someone. For that reason, I think that’s normal if Our Majesty, King Sawang, would like to marry her,” said the messenger.

In fact, King Sawang never missed anything that he wanted to have, uncaring of the fact that she did not want to fulfill his wish. He thought that everything was measurable and affordable by his wealth, materials, and lordship. With the high optimism that all he wanted would be a reality, he gave an excuse to himself to do anything. That was how King Sawang depicted.



Knowing the fact, *Ibu* Suri Nunyang was getting more anxious. All the statements of King Sawang's messenger referred to a humiliation upon other people. He thought that all could be purchased with his position and prosperity. Despite her anxiety, *Ibu* Suri Nunyang tried to look friendly, relaxed, and polite.

“Dear the soldier of King Sawang, we know that your lord is graceful and well-off. But, there are some things you can't afford by money. If King Sawang strongly set his heart on my daughter, then, the decision is in her hands. Thus, come to her in her palace,” said *Ibu* Suri Nunyang. She counted on her daughter's smartness and capability of solving such a complicated matter.

The messenger finally came back. Moreover, they, all together, went to the palace of Nyai Undang. In fact, the soldiers of Nyai Undang had already known about their arrival and directly sent them off to the assembly room. Nyai Undang met them over there. The king's advisor, at once as the leader of the entourage, was allowed to get closer to her for conversation. He was truly amazed by the beauty of Queen of Kupang island. There was no wonder why she was very famous throughout and across the country.

“Come on, tell me what King Sawang wants from me,” commanded Nyai Undang. Her voice was very clear, just like a morning fog.

The advisor raised her face, but he could not help being hypnotized by her sweet gaze. Her eyes shined as calm as the lake in the full moon. Lowering his head a bit down, he told the king's message.

“Is it all that the king intends to do in my country? Why there are so countless armies that he carries? You know what? My people are getting worried and scared of it, that's like we're going to war. Alright the advisor of King Sawang, please tell your king about this. His wish to marry to someone is about the matter of the heart; that's very private, not about prosperity, material, or lordship. Tell him that here, in Pulau Kupang, the gentle should come by himself to get his mate,” her voice sounded calm and wise.

Like hypnotization, the messenger was just like mesmerized by the voice of hers. He was just like lulled out as if listening to a lullaby song. When she stopped talking, he was difficult to get conscious. He, immediately, asked for permission to leave and returned to King Sawang. He could not help falling in love with the voice and statement of the charming Nyai Undang.

“What a charismatic voice! Even I can't focus on her talk! Very fortunate to have listened to her voice only a bit. I can't imagine if she talked much, maybe I would forget all, whereas I need to say all she said to King Sawang,” thought the messenger.

Again, the king's messenger was daydreaming, imagining the beauty and the nice voice of Nyai Undang.

Arriving in front of the King, the messenger immediately told him what Nyai Undang was telling to him.

“So she said that the gentle should come by himself to get his mate? Alright, then, I need to come by myself, don't I?” asked King Sawang.

“That's it, Your Majesty,” answered the messenger.

“What do you think, uncle? Does she receive my proposal? Is that true that she is very dazzling? How's her beauty?” King Sawang was very curious about her. So many questions he asked his advisor who had been the messenger for him.

Moreover, the advisor who had directly witnessed her beauty looked confused to answer all the questions from King Sawang. “That's right, Your Majesty. Her beauty overpowers all the beauties I've ever seen in my life. It's indescribable. I'm speechless. It would be better if you see her by yourself, Your Majesty.”

“Mmmm. I'm getting more curious! Okay! Get prepared all my soldiers, uncle! Be quick! I myself would come to see her in her palace. Do you think she would accept my proposal, uncle?” asked King Sawang.

“She said the gentle should come to get his mate. She said that this is about the matter of the heart? What does it mean anyway? Does it mean that I need to pick my queen by myself, uncle?” King Sawang was truly curious about and could not wait to meet Nyai Undang.

“That’s probably, Your Majesty,” answered the advisor.

4. The Arrogant King Sawang

The arrogant King Sawang supposed that his proposal for Nyai Undang would be accepted. The wealth and lordship had taken control of him. His arrogance had steered him. He was too certain that Nyai Undang would be fearful to get attacked by his armies because of her objection. It had been obvious that King Sawang had been under the control of his own arrogance.

He did not even know that Nyai Undang would not be feared of any since she had been taught by her father, which had been well-fossilized in her mind, to be a brave figure for truth. Nyai Undang, at all, did not put any fear to the armies of King Sawang who might get Pulau Kupang chaotic.

Cheerfully, King Sawang had on his most charming and expensive outfit. By the outfit, he felt tougher and more handsome than that of usually. He carried out all his wealth to show how strong and rich he was. The armies to keep him company had been all prepared. Some of them had got prepared in his seven ships.

“I look very handsome, don’t I?” while taking a look at himself in the mirror, King Sawang was talking by himself. His daydreaming had been too far. He had imagined that he would be the happiest man in the world since he would marry the beautiful queen. His overconfidence had got him ignorant that

handsomeness and prosperity were not enough to make all dream come true. The dream should be chased out by a morally-equipped spirit, good willingness, and the best ways.

The society in Pulau Kupang was amazed by the splendor of the parade that sent off King Sawang. It was acceptable that he was called as Lord of Ocean. He had to have a very tough army who could defeat the ruthless pirates. Also, he had to authorize many trading spots, giant ships, and bravest sailormen.

“Will the pretty Nyai Undang accept the proposal the rich King Sawang?” asked a young man to his friend.

“Don’t ask and suppose too much. That’s not good. We hope for the best for Our Majesty. Whatever happens, as the society, we only need to wait for Nyai Undang to make her own decision,” said an old man who suddenly came out among the young men.

“I’m quite sure that Nyai Undang won’t decide that fast. The amazing King Sawang? Ehm ... I think he just uselessly takes so much time being here,” said the old lady going by the board while shaking her head. Both the young men could not get what the old lady meant.



The elegance and splendor of King Sawang had got the society in Pulau Kupang in a crowd, to see the cavalcade along the road. The soldiers of Nyai Undang welcomed the parade in each gate upon the palace. King Sawang could not be patient any longer. He would like to meet Nyai Undang as soon as possible.

The cavalcade finally arrived at the main gate of the palace. Confidently, King Sawang was walking forward to the palace in the very front position.

Proximately, Nyai Undang got off and headed to welcome King Sawang. Her steps were so beautiful, softly. She was facing King Sawang wisely. No fear she even showed to him. She truly displayed how the great queen took a lead a great kingdom and be loved by the society.

Until then, King Sawang was over expecting and arrogantly supposed that all he wanted would come to be true, just by prosperity and lordship. He could not hold himself getting annoyed when he got an objection from Nyai Undang. He felt disgraceful in front of all the people around. All the soldiers could not believe that King Sawang would be objected.

King Sawang could not receive the fact that his proposal was objected. He was suddenly fainted and unconscious. Even he passed away at that time. All the people were surprised, especially all his faithful soldiers. They were astonished,

disappointed, and furious. But, they could do nothing and were conquered in front of the Queen of Pulau Kupang.

After King Sawang's death, the nuance of Pulau Kupang was ghostly. All the armies of King Sawang could not receive the fact that his king had been conquered, and felt very angry to the Queen of Pulau Kupang. Despite the loss to the Queen of Pulau Kupang, they still had a feeling of offense and swore that one day the revenge would happen. Afterward, among them, some of the entourage returned to their home country to tell the sorrow after the king's death, while some of the rest stayed along in Pulau Kupang.

Day by day, the condition of Pulau Kupang returned to be as in the previous. Gradually, all the society could feel the peace in Pulau Kupang – no fear, anxiety, and worry lasted.

“Nothing is immortal. Prosperity, position, lordship, and whatever in this universe, even our life, all shall be back to the Almighty God. Only God is immortal, the most perfect,” said Mantir, the customary leader in Pulau Kupang trying to calm the society down who had been suffering from anxiety.

“Mantir's true, my beloved people. No one can rebel the God's will. Let's come back fighting for our life, and never forget to pray to God for the best thing in our life,” said Nyai Undang. Her

saying was very deep and fossilizing at the people's heart and mind.

The society came back in normality after being told by Mantir and the queen. All the people were back to their routines. The young men who liked to hunt returned into the jungle, the adults went to the farmland for farming, and the children were gathering at the yard, chasing each other and playing from morning till dusk.

5. King Nyaliwan

It was just like a flower blossoming and blown up by the wind, the prosperity of Pulau Kupang along with the beauty of Nyai Undang had been heard by another country, distantly located at the northern side of Pulau Kupang. The country was led by King Nyaliwan. As the Lord of Ocean, King Nyaliwan was also a great king in that area. It had been ages that he had heard about the beauty of Nyai Undang. In fact, he also would like to propose Nyai Undang, the one whose beauty was incomparable among others, to become his queen.

One day, King Nyaliwan departed to Pulau Kupang. He did not care at all about the long distance he should be through. In addition, there would be many dangers that attempted to bother him. He had also prepared some expensive and glittering things as a dowry for her, the one with whom he was expecting to marry.

After many days, passing through many obstacles during the journey, the entourage of King Nyaliwan had arrived at Pulau Kupang. He, further, stopped at the bordering area and sent off his soldier to get into the palace of Nyai Undang.

The same as she told to King Sawang, Nyai Undang told the soldier that he needed to come by himself to her palace. Afterward, the messengers of King Nyaliwan told the king about the message from Nyai Undang.

“Yo ... yo ... Your Majesty ... A a a I ...” he was stammering. That obviously made King Nyaliwan wondered and not understand what his messenger would talk to him. In fact, his messenger used to be known as the most charming and interactive speaker.

“What happens to you, my charming messenger? Why are you stammering and couldn’t say anything? What makes you this way? Is there anyone spelling you out?” King Nyaliwan questioned him unstoppable, which made him more perplexed.

“No ... no ... no ..., no one did, Your Majesty. A a I’m only amazed at her ... her ... her ... beauty. Also, her voice was also very nice ... nice ... nice, Your Majesty! You need ... need ... need to come to her by ... by ... by yourself.” Finally, the messenger could finish all his words even though by stammering.

“So, you’re amazed at her beauty and voice? And that’s why you become stammering like this way?” while scratching and shaking his head, King Nyaliwan was walking back and forth, asking his messenger.

“So, the most important thing is from your stammering is that she wanted to see me? Look at my handsomeness? And become my queen, didn’t she? Hahahaha ...” His laughter was very wide until all his teeth were visible, a sign of his overconfidence.

“So, I need to come by myself to meet the Queen of Pulau Kupang? If my proposal was objected, she mustn’t request me to come, must she? Shalala ... Shalala ... mine must be received, obviously, Shalala ... Shalala.” while singing aloud; therefore he looked insane.

“Mr. Commander, please prepare the soldiers to keep me company to meet Nyai Undang!” commanded King Nyaliwan happily.

“Also get the dowry and other stuff for my prospective bride prepared!”

“What else? Prepare anything that’s supposed to be carried out very well, Mr. Commander, and ...” Unfinished talking, suddenly some of the soldiers, along with a stranger, faced King Nyaliwan. King Nyaliwan raged at them furiously.

“Soldiers! Why do you bring me this one here? You’re so annoying. I’m in a hurry to have a visit for my queen,” said King Nyaliwan.

“Hey, who are you? What brings you here?”

“I’m sorry, Your Majesty. I’m one of the servants of King Sawang. I just want to tell you what I really know for your safety, Your Majesty.”

“My safety? I’m always guarded by my soldiers – all are tough and very brave! What do you want to say? Watch out! Don’t even dare to vilify my bride to be!” King Nyaliwan threatened.

“Be quick! Tell me the truth! But, you must tell me lies! What do you think, Mr. Commander? King Nyaliwan asked.

“Your Majesty, I even don’t trust him too, but I think that’s okay to listen to his words,” said the commander.

“Okay, go on talking!” said the king commanding the servant.”

The servant, used to be the advisor of King Sawang, told the king about the death of his king after being objected by Nyai Undang in her palace. All the sorrow were told to King Nyaliwan.

“Your Majesty, that’s the story from me. Nyai Undang is, indeed, beautiful and wise. But, she couldn’t receive an enforcement, even by the army or prosperity.” The A-to-Z story of the servant could not stop the king’s determination.

“Shut up your mouth, you foolish! I won’t be as the same as your king! Mr. Commander, we don’t need to listen to him. Let’s go! I can’t even wait for any longer.” Commanded King Nyaliwan to his commander.



In a sudden, the commander kneeled down in front of the king. But, the king looked unpleasant.

“What do you want to say, Mr. Commander? You can lead us to war very bravely. Do you feel weak now after listening to his story?” snapped the king.

“I never feel fearful of getting into a war, Your Majesty. As far as I’m concerned, we can’t be in rush to deal with Nyai Undang. It would be better if we cancel to go see Nyai Undang,” said the commander.

The commander had been used to dealing with so countless foes in the war that he was full of consideration before taking an action. In the battlefield, the commander was not only brave but also full of thoughts.

With all his conceit, King Nyaliwan kept setting his heart on having a visit to propose Nyai Undang.

“No. I shall go to see Nyai Undang in her palace. If I’m fearful, it means that I’m not that gentle as she mentioned in her message.

It would be shameful that the great king has no bravery to meet the queen who’s still young enough. Would you like staying over here, Mr. Commander! Get all the soldiers prepared. If something happens, command them to make an invasion. Look, this country

is not that big! Our armies outnumber hers. Thus, you don't need to be feared," King Nyaliwan ordered.

King Nyaliwan underrated the Queen of Pulau Kupang, too much. He was thinking that he could conquer Nyai Undang easily because she was still very young. He felt that his many armies would easily get the brave Nyai Undang scared and willing to be his. King Nyaliwan was not aware enough to understand that the king should have a soul of a knight, not force any will, and prioritize the public interest other than personal one.

"The beautiful lady mustn't like to war. She must be scared her wonderful skin be wounded, even only a bit. Keep watching her, soldiers! Don't let her go!" Many times, King Nyaliwan underrated Nyai Undang. He did not even know that Nyai Undang was very brave and never be spoiled. In contrary, she was even independent and skillful to protect and defend herself. What a teaching from *Temaggung Sempung* and Nyai Nunyang.

The decision of King Nyaliwan had got the commander not only anxious but also inept to do anything. What he only could do was fulfilling what the king wanted. He got all the armies prepared at the bordering area of the capital city.

Cheerfully, King Nyaliwan accompanied by his soldiers came to the palace of Nyai Undang. He truly set his heart on marrying her. In his mind, when he bravely came to her for proposal, she would

be certain to consider him gentle and accept him as her husband. Highly confident, King Nyaliwan was sure to get Nyai Undang as his wife.

The journey of King Nyaliwan from his home country to Pulau Kupang was full of ups and downs. But, the same thing happened as it previously happened to King Sawang. The guarding soldiers could do nothing to fight against Nyai Undang.

The hopeless King Nyaliwan was powerless to deal with Nyai Undang. All his body got numb, and shortly after he was dead. Since then, the armies of Nyaliwan were conquered in front of Queen of Pulau Kupang. Whereas, previously, the king kept devaluing Nyai Undang.

The arrogance of King Nyaliwan did not even result in anything he had been expecting too much, but misery.

6. The Alliance between Sawang and Nyaliwan Kingdoms

The former soldiers of King Sawang and Nyaliwan, who did not return to their home country, were staying over and get united with the society of Pulau Kupang. However, there were some of them coming back home and carried out the sorrowful information about the Kings' deaths (Sawang and Nyaliwan) in Pulau Kupang.

The sorrows had been widely spread throughout the countries of King Sawang and Nyaliwan. The surprising news had triggered and set fire to the society's anger – the people of Nyaliwan were from the north, while Sawang from the south. They would like to take a revenge and invade Pulau Kupang.

The great rendezvous between the two kingdoms had raised sorrow, disappointment, and anger so that they were getting provoked. They did not abide by the sorrow their kings had suffered from. They even did not understand why their kings were so powerless and tended to give up in front of the queen, who was just a lady.

“I've heard such a painful news about the kings. How could he be so powerless in front of the young queen, Nyai Undang, soldiers?” asked a lady to the soldiers of King Sawang.

“I’m even disbelieving of that fact. How can the Lord of Ocean be defeated by a lady? How powerful was she actually? Tell us, soldiers!” said the old man emotionally.

“Our King, Nyaliwan, was very tough. He even cannot be beaten down! Impossible! Truly impossible! Oh God, I can’t even believe it!” Their anger could not be held on any longer.



“We need to fight for war. We need to win! Taking a revenge on behalf of our kings! Don’t ever give up! Don’t be defeated!” The spirit of Nyaliwan’s people was as the same as that of Sawang’s ones. They had been on the top of their anger.

They, both the people of Nyaliwan and Sawang, therefore, were united into an alliance to set for tactics to invade Pulau Kupang. All the armies and sophisticated weapons had been well-prepared; they were ready to war.

The planning of the invasion, in fact, had been detected by Nyai Undang and her people in Pulau Kupang.

After knowing that alliance from both the kingdoms would like to run an invasion with the huge, tough, and well-armed troops, Nyai Undang immediately prepared her armies as well. She also asked for help from her colleagues.

The special messengers, therefore, were sent off to deliver the help request to all her colleagues: *Tambun*, *Bungai*, *Rambang*, and *Ringkai*. They would deliver the message that was symbolized by a stuff they carried out. The stuff was a lance that should be given to all her colleagues. In fact, her colleagues, Tambun, Bungai, Rambang, and Ringkai were the tough and brave commanders. Therefore, they were going to Pulau Kupang, to see Nyai Undang.

Arriving at Pulau Kupang, all the armies of theirs were welcomed with very special events by Nyai Undang. She, then, told that every single occurrence she had been through so that there would be a war challenge from the two kingdoms in the alliance, Sawang's and Nyaliwan's kingdoms. Without any longer delay, there were discussed tactics and strategies to get the victory for Pulau Kupang.

“Alright, sister! You don't need to be worried about any. We'll do our best, and sacrifice anything just for you!” said Tambun and Bungai to Nyai Undang.

“We do too. We come here for you, standing up for our family's self-esteem and fighting against suppression.” With a high spirit, Rembang and Ringkai attempted to convince the Queen of Pulau Kupang.

“Alright, my beloved family. Thanks for your coming here. I do need your help and presence. I'm now strongly sure that the truth should be guarded and the struggle must go on!” Her patriotism and heroism were getting more zealous.

Finally, she decided to establish fortresses in Pulau Kupang. To do so, the strongest wood was needed. Therefore, *kayu ulin* (*ulin* wood) was chosen to be used. Immediately, all the *ulin* wood was collected easily for this kind of wood was very easy to be found out around Pulau Kupang. The good cooperation among the

armies, society, and assistive armies from her colleagues had got the fortresses well-established very quickly. All the fortresses had been very magnificent and ready for war.

After some days, the opponents had arrived. The armies of King Sawang invaded from the southern side, while the armies of King Nyaliwan from the northern one.

It was estimated that there were as many as 10 thousand armies were deployed, higher in quantity than that of Nyai Undang.

Albeit, because of self-confidence, all the armies of Nyai Undang were not fearful of them at all. The unity and compactness they had depicted, in fact, were successful to get them fall down in spite of their higher number of quantity.

The quantity, in essence, was not the main thing to reach success and victory. It was proved that the alliance between the two great kingdoms of King Nyaliwan and Sawang were failed to conquer the superb forces of Nyai Undang which were smaller in quantity. Due to the superiority of Nyai Undang armies, the foes eventually gave up.

During the war, all the people played roles to get the foes down. The Queen of Pulau Kupang was dazzled out by the spirit of heroism depicted by all the people and her colleagues. The victory would not be easily reached without a high spirit and nice teamwork among the squad.

The most remarkable one during the war was Rambang. All the people even adored him so much. They thought that he was the most meritorious in the battlefield for he could bowl out most of the enemies, more than others could do.

As a thankfulness, Nyai Undang granted him as the commander of Pulau Kupang Kingdom. Afterward, she was also thankful because all her people had been participating in the war. She, furthermore, conducted a great party for the victory. The party lasted for seven days and nights. Many messengers from the other kingdoms throughout Kalimantan came to attend it.

“It’s very pleased to hear that we’ve won upon our opponents, and they’ve given up as well,” said a young man who was enjoying the party.

“Because of Nyai Undang and her colleagues, we’ve been safe,” replied another young man.

“No, that’s because of God. If the God wills us to lose, we must lose to them. Almighty God is so all-merciful, giving the victory to anyone He wills. We’ve been very fortunate,” said Mantir interrupting the conversation between the two young men.

“Yes, Mantir’s true. We’ve been very lucky belonging to our country, fighting for and standing up upon it, and we defend for the truth!” replied the two men.

All the society in Pulau Kupang were enjoying the party very much. They were proud of themselves because they could save their country from the invasion. They all also were proud of having a wonderful leader, just like Nyai Undang.

7. The Wedding of Nyai Undang and Sangalang

Shortly after the party was held, Nyai Undang finally decided to carry on her wedding that had been canceled for quite long time. The lucky young man who would be her mate was the handsome man she had been knowing for ages, Sangalang.

The D-day of the wedding party could not only be waited by them but also all the society of Pulau Kupang. Finally, the day had come and all felt very excited to welcome that. The customary party was held and was very jam-packed everywhere. All the invitees were attending. All the kings from the kingdoms across the island had been invited from afar. All the society of Pulau Kupang had a chance to shake hands as well as congratulate the groom and bride, the perfect couple.

Nyai Undang looked so perfect. She was wearing an eye-catching outfit. By typical outfit from *Dayak* tribe of Pulau Kupang, Nyai Undang was completely awesome and wise. All eyes were definitely on her, alongside her mate, the handsome and brave Prince Sangalang. All the people were fascinated to see the perfect couple in the wedding.

“What a perfect mate! Nyai Undang is so gorgeous, and so is Prince Sangalang,” said a girl of Pulau Kampung.

“They’re truly the perfect mate,” said another girl.

“Wow, they’re amazing!” replied a lady admiring both, the happy groom and bride.



All the invitees came and kept praising their perfectness. The wedding was also celebrated by local art exhibitions. All the people enjoyed it so much, many foods and drinks were served as well. They were really satisfied after giving both of them prayers for their next life.

“I’m very happy to see this wedding. Finally, we’ve been married. All run smoothly, no obstacles and trials,” said Nyai Undang to Prince Sangalang, her husband.

“Yes, My Dearest! All the people are happy for us. They all even pray us,” replied Sangalang.

They had been mated since long time ago by their parents until the true love came and raised very strongly between the two. Nyai Undang and Prince Sangalang finally had their new life as the couple in Pulau Kupang. The happiness of Nyai Undang was the biggest grace for the big family of *Temanggung* Sempung and Nyai Nunyang. In addition, that was also the happiness for all the society throughout Pulau Kupang.

8. The Peaceful Pulau Kupang

Pulau Kupang had been more peaceful and secure under the lordship of Nyai Undang and Sangalang. No war happened, even all the people lived peacefully and prosperously. The happiness of Nyai Undang was also for the people over Pulau Kupang, and the sorrow of the people was the real misery for Nyai Undang as well. All was in harmony so that everyone who stayed at Pulau Kupang would feel like home because of the true comfort.

One night, in a sudden, Nyai Undang was contemplating, recalling all her father was teaching to her about. She did not only recall but also put all into practice in her daily life, especially in taking a lead Pulau Kupang. The most memorable teachings she always kept in mind was that the leader should be tough, brave, responsible, fair-minded, and honest.

In addition, another message she remembered the most was that as the queen, she was to love all her people by heart, defend for the truth, and never count on evilness as it would drag her to a misery. Indeed, all the teachings were completely true – life is about a struggle. She had practiced all his father meant to with all the best she could do.

Pulau Kupang, furthermore, was getting more famous not because of the beauty of the queen. That was now where the traders had a try on their luck. Many newcomers came to spend their time for

enjoying the exotica of Pulau Kupang. As a consequence, all the society got a positive impact on the advancement of Pulau Kupang so that none of the people in Pulau Kupang suffered from starvation.

“All the thanks be to God Almighty! We’ve been destined to be with the most responsible leader. So, as the society, we could feel peace and security that’s supposed to give us bigger motivation,” said a young man of Pulau Kupang enthusiastically.

“No one suffered from misery here. Instead, we’ve been more prosperous. How fortunate we are! I hope all our generations would feel what we are now feeling,” said another.

“Fellas, that’s why we ourselves should obey all the rules and laws in this country. Look, if the laws are put into practice, no one would ruin our nature in the exotic Pulau Kupang. No one dared to seize other people by enforcement. All the evils would be afraid of committing a crime here.” All praised Nyai Undang because of her nice roles as the leader.

As the time went by, the descendant of Nyai Undang and Sangalang continued the lordship of Pulau Kupang. In fact, it was very well-advanced in any extents. The children were playing cheerfully, welcoming the sunny morning. In addition, all the parents truly enjoyed the life, and all the people were getting

keener on reaching out their dreams. They were very enthusiastic for the better life.

The woods throughout Pulau Kupang was all green and picturesque. Kapuas River turned out to be more beneficial to those who were environment-friendly. The fresh air was still existing so much, superbly breathable. All the children were always feeling joyful to play in the wide backyard of the stilt house. That was the real gift and exotica.

The Author



Nama lengkap : Ai Kurniati, M.Hum.
Ponsel : 081255004858
Pos-el : ai.kurniati@gmail.com
Akun Facebook : Ai Kurniati
Alamat kantor : Jalan Tingang Km 3,5 Palangka Raya
Kalimantan Tengah
Bidang keahlian : Bahasa

Riwayat pekerjaan/profesi (10 tahun terakhir)

1. 2001--2004: Staf Balai Bahasa Kalimantan Barat
2. 2005--sekarang: Staf Balai Bahasa Kalimantan Tengah

Riwayat Pendidikan Tinggi dan Tahun Belajar

1. S-2: Ilmu Linguistik (2007--2010) Universitas Padjajaran
2. S-1: Sastra Sunda (1996--2000) Universitas Padjajaran

Informasi Lain

Lahir di Bandung, 2 Mei 1977. Menikah dan dikaruniai dua anak. Saat ini menetap di Palangka Raya. Sebagai staf teknis di Balai Bahasa Kalimantan Tengah, beberapa kali menjadi pemakalah di berbagai seminar tentang sastra dan bahasa di berbagai kota di Indonesia.

The Editor

Nama : Triwulandari
Pos-el : erierieri777@gmail.com
Bidang Keahlian : Penyuntingan

Riwayat Pekerjaan

Tenaga fungsional umum di Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa (2001—sekarang)

Riwayat Pendidikan

1. S-1 Sarjana Sastra Indonesia Universitas Padjajaran, Bandung (1996—2001)
2. S-2 Linguistik Universitas Indonesia (2007—2010)

Informasi Lain

Lahir di Bogor pada tanggal 7 Juni 1977. Aktif dalam berbagai kegiatan dan aktivitas penyuntingan, di antaranya menyunting di Bapenas dan PAUDNI Bandung.