

**SABULUNGAN DALAM TEGANGAN IDENTITAS BUDAYA:
KAJIAN ATAS RELIGI ORANG MENTAWAI
DI SIBERUT SELATAN**

ABSTRAK

Berbicara mengenai budaya orang Mentawai tidak bisa dilepaskan dari telaah mengenai *sabulungan*. Kepercayaan lokal Mentawai yang mengakui keberadaan dan pengaruh roh-roh alam tersebut seringkali dilukiskan sebagai landasan keselarasan manusia dan lingkungannya. Pada tahun 1954 peristiwa Rapat Tiga Agama menjadi sarana legitimasi tindakan pelarangan *sabulungan*. Hal tersebut dilatarbelakangi upaya negara ‘mendisiplinkan’ agama di Indonesia sebagai bentuk pengakuan atas Sila Ketuhanan Yang Maha Esa. Dominasi yang diwarnai tindak diskriminasi dan kekerasan, itu memunculkan konflik ideologi antara negara dan orang Mentawai di Siberut. Tesis ini berisikan ulasan mengenai bagaimana dominasi negara atas sebuah kepercayaan lokal di Siberut memicu timbulnya perlawanan terselubung dari orang Mentawai yang berusaha menjaga identitas budaya mereka. Model perlawanan tersebut menurut kajian James C. Scott merupakan ‘senjata orang-orang yang kalah’ menghadapi kelas yang mendominasi kehidupan mereka. Ritual-ritual tradisi *sabulungan* ditampilkan kembali sebagai ekspresi budaya sambil menghidupi keberagaman sesuai anjuran dan tuntutan pemerintah. Upaya revitalisasi budaya melalui semangat inkulturatif yang ditawarkan Gereja Katolik dan penyadaran nilai-nilai budaya melalui pendidikan berjalan namun bukan tanpa halangan. Makin lunturnya penghayatan akan *sabulungan* dan nilai budaya di dalamnya serta perubahan gaya hidup modern menunjukkan gear budaya dan ambivalensi yang dialami orang Mentawai di Siberut dewasa ini.

Istilah kunci: *sabulungan*, perlawanan sehari-hari, identitas budaya, Mentawai.

**SABULUNGAN IN THE TENSION OF CULTURAL IDENTITIES: STUDY OF RELIGION OF
THE MENTAWAI PEOPLE IN SOUTH SIBERUT**

ABSTRACT

Talking about the culture of the Mentawai people cannot be separated from the study of Sabulungan. Mentawai local beliefs that recognize the existence and influence of these natural spirits are often described as the basis of harmony between humans and their environment. In 1954 the event of the Three Religion Meeting became a means of legitimizing the prohibition of sabulungan. This was motivated by the state's efforts to 'discipline' religion in Indonesia as a form of recognition of the One Precept of Godhead. Domination is characterized by acts of discrimination and violence. It gave rise to ideological conflicts between the state and the Mentawai people on Siberut. This thesis contains a review of how the state's dominance of a local belief in Siberut triggered the emergence of covert resistance from the Mentawai people who tried to maintain their cultural identity. The resistance model according to James C. Scott's study is "the weapons of the weak" facing a class that dominates their lives. The rituals of the Sabulungan tradition are reappeared as cultural expressions while living religion according to the recommendations and demands of the government. Efforts to revitalize culture through the inculturative spirit offered by the Catholic Church and awareness of cultural values through education but not without obstacles. The fading away of appreciation of sabulungan and cultural values in it and changes in modern lifestyles show cultural shock and ambivalence experienced by Mentawai people in Siberut today.

Keywords: sabulungan, daily resistance, cultural identity, Mentawai.