

Chapter 11 Conclusion: A Brighter Tomorrow



Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut: The Preservation of The Art

## CHAPTER 11 CONCLUSION: A BRIGHTER TOMORROW

Nik Maheran Nik Muhammad and Ng Siew Foen

As this book ends, we arrive at an important insight. We have come face to face with the delicate nature of cultural heritage and its vulnerability in a continuously changing world due to our in-depth investigation of the Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut. We are acutely conscious of the impending risk of permanently losing this valued performance art as the last Rebana Kercing performers in the Kampung Laut age, and the lack of successors has become increasingly apparent.

The Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut is significant historically. However, it also symbolises the community's tenacity and fortitude in preserving this cultural treasure for so many years. Its dance, music, and lyrics weave together to form a beguiling tapestry of artistry that serves as an identification marker for the neighbourhood and the people of Malaysia as a whole. In order to preserve the Rebana Kercing performing art, Universiti Malaysia Kelantan, in partnership with the US Embassy in Kuala Lumpur and with funding from the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation, undertook a preservation project. This project was crucial in documenting, planning events, and fostering an environment of learning and teaching.

We are grateful that the US Embassy in Kuala Lumpur chose to award the Ambassadors Fund for Cultural Preservation to Universiti Malaysia Kelantan. Completing this project with their help and dedication to protecting cultural treasures was only possible. The persons working on the "Preservation of the Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut, Kelantan" project deserve enormous praise for their selfless efforts. Their commitment to gathering information, planning activities, and increasing their understanding of the Rebana Kercing performing art has been essential.

We extend our sincere gratitude to the Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut members, who kindly contributed their perspectives, experiences, and knowledge of this extraordinary art form. Special thanks are extended to Mr Harun Bin Hassan, the Rebana Kercing of Kampung Laut Association's advisor, and Mr Wan Azmi Bin Mohd Noor, the organization's chair, as well as to all the other association members who have contributed significantly to the preservation project.

We would also want to express our gratitude to the Jabatan Kebudayaan dan Kesenian Negara (JKKN) Kelantan, the State Department of Education in Kelantan, and