

Review of: "Pela Gandong and Christian Education in Culture and Society Practices"

Elija Chara

Potential competing interests: No potential competing interests to declare.

A commendable and interesting piece on Pela Gandong of Allang society. The paper provides a comprehensive description on the premises of culture and the relevancy of traditional Pela Gandong in the post-colonial and post-Christian social functioning and relationship.

Having commended, there are few identified challenges in the paper that could be looked into.

1. Technical inconsistency, or perhaps just a matter of semantics; the abstract and conclusion contain the line..."Pela Gandong culture in indigenous peoples...", which comes with the general universality of Pela Gandong amongst indigenous peoples. In the paper, Para 1 can be understood as Pela Gandong exists only in/around Maluku...which negates the abstract's statement that objectively puts Pela Gandong with all the indigenous peoples. This technical mishap is minor but it alters the foundational arguments on Pela Gandong and Indigenous peoples, as such, the issue of peopling the Pela Gandong culture needs to be relooked- if it is for all the indigenous peoples or just the indigenous Allang community in which case the narrative premises could be case subjective.
2. Technical terms could be looked into, for example when describing the pre-colonial polity, the word "states" could be used instead of "countries". Similarly the "West" is objectively understood in academic as Euro-America, so if the word "West" (capital W) in the paper denotes geographical location, then "west" (small w) could be used; otherwise the intended symbolism of the narration goes elsewhere and creates a misjudged interpretation.
3. Restructuring the contents in sequential narratives could be more beautiful and easy to comprehend. Also, a brief description on social geography of Allang and Maluku can added.
4. Lastly, the methodology is rather too short and fails to do justice to the paper's intensive content. This part needs to be thoroughly re-looked into. In this section, few questions/objectives or even why Pela Gandong? could of been put. Also, it's not Methodology Research; just "Methodology" would suffice.

Looking forward to see the article.

Regards.