

## ABSTRAK

Yohanes Siki, 17.75.6253. Makna Kunyah Sirih Pinang Menurut Orang Tunbab Dan Relevansinya Bagi Kehidupan Bersama. Skripsi Program Sarjana, Program Studi Filsafat Agama Katolik, Sekolah Tinggi Filsafat Katolik Ledalero, 2022.

Kebudayaan merupakan salah satu unsur dasar kehidupan manusia yang memiliki peran yang sangat sentral dan memiliki pengaruh yang signifikan bagi kehidupan di dunia ini. Manusia dan kebudayaan merupakan satu kesatuan yang tidak terpisahkan karena keduanya saling melengkapi. Manusia merupakan pendukung utama kebudayaan karena kebudayaan telah membantu manusia dalam membentuk peradabannya dalam eksistensi kehidupannya. Sekalipun manusia individu akan sirna keberadaannya, tetapi kebudayaan yang dimiliki akan diwariskan secara turun temurun pada generasi berikutnya untuk tetap dilestarikan dan dikembangkan menjadi budaya warisan yang sudah tertanam dan berakar dalam diri setiap anggota suku agar terhindar dari kepunahan.

Kunyah sirih pinang merupakan sebuah budaya warisan leluhur di pulau Timor, khususnya wilayah Tunbab yang masih dijaga keberadaannya hingga kini. Eksistensi budaya kunyah sirih pinang melibatkan setiap orang dari berbagai kalangan baik orang dewasa, kaum muda dan anak-anak. Sebab dalam acara kunyah sirih pinang mengandung makna yang menyatuhkan dan menumbuhkan sikap saling menghargai satu sama lain. Kebersamaan di dalam kunyah sirih pinang ini menjadikan diri mereka satu keluarga besar karena, mereka kunyah sirih pinang dari tempat yang sama yang disebut dalam bahasa Dawan 'uab meto' *kabi* atau *oko mama*. Budaya kunyah sirih pinang ini merupakan budaya persaudaraan karena mereka duduk bersama sambil bercakap-cakap tentang kehidupan, berbicara tentang pendidikan anak-anak, saling bertukar pikiran dalam memberi solusi seputar masalah kehidupan rumah tangga yang diembani. Budaya kunyah sirih pinang ini juga terkandung aspek-aspek kehidupan yang mampu mengikat kebersamaan hidup masyarakat Tunbab diantaranya: Aspek sosial, struktur sosial, sistem kekerabatan, relasi sosial, aspek ekonomi dan aspek religius. Selain aspek-aspek tersebut sirih pinang juga terkandung nilai-nilai sosial diantaranya: Nilai persaudaraan, nilai pemersatu, nilai penghormatan terhadap tamu serta nilai penghormatan kepada leluhur. Selain itu kunyah sirih pinang memiliki banyak fungsi bagi kehidupan dsetiap hari antara lain: fungsi kesehatan, fungsi sosial, fungsi ekonomi, fungsi sirih pinang dalam memperlancar segala adat-istiadat leluhur, fungsi sirih [pinang sebagai penyambung penyakit supernatural, dan penyatuh bagi manusia dan para leluhur yang sudah meninggal dunia. selain itu kunyah sirih pinang bagi orang Tunbab, mengandung makna yang mampu mengikat kebersamaan dalam kehidupan setiap hari antara lain: Makna biologis, makna folisofis, makna kehidupan antropologis, dan makna kehidupan kebudayaan.

Budaya kunyah sirih pinang sampai sekarang masih menjadi kebiasaan harian mengunyah. Sirih pinang digunakan dalam berbagai macam upacara adat kesukuan bagi orang Tunbab seperti pesta nikah, upacara kedukaan dan upacara-upacara lainnya. Selain itu sirih pinang menjadi penyemangat dalam bekerja maupun duduk bersantai. Kunyah sirih pinang juga dapat menyatuhkan anggota keluarga yang memiliki perselisihan bahkan pertengkaran. Dengan duduk

bersama saling berbicara diantara mereka, maka akan ditemukan solusi sehingga mengatasi masalah yang sedang dihadapi di depan para saksi. Jalan tengah yang diambil adalah dengan menyuguhkan sirih pinang diantara mereka untuk dikunyah maka terjadilah rekonsiliasi. Tindakan ini dilakukan agar ada kedamaian dan cinta di antara mereka. Karena itu kunyah sirih pinang memiliki makna yang sangat mendalam yaitu menyatuhkan. Kunyah sirih pinang juga mengandung nilai-nilai kebersamaan yang relevan bagi kehidupan masyarakat Tunbab. Oleh karena itu perlu dijaga warisan budaya ini untuk diwariskan secara turun temurun kepada generasi muda dan anak-anak.

**Kata Kunci: Budaya, Makna Kunyah Sirih Pinang, Relevansi, dan Eksistensinya Turun Temurun kepada Kaum muda dan Anak-Anak.**

## ABSTRACT

Yohanes Siki, 17.75.6253. The Value of piper Betle and Areca Nut Chew According to the People of Tunbab and the Benefits for Common Life. Undergraduate Thesis Program, Catholic Religious Philosophy Study Program, Ledalero Catholic Philosophy College, 2022.

Culture is one of the elements of human life which contains the central meaning and the significant impact for human life in the world. Human and culture are an inseparable unit because they complement each other. Humans are the main supporters of culture because culture has helped humans in shaping their civilization. Even though each human will banish in his/her existence, but the culture that he/she has will be passed on continually to the next generation, to be preserved and developed as a given culture that has already planted and rooted in the heart of each member of the people of Tunbab in order to avoid extinction.

Piper betle and areca nut chew are a given culture from the West Timor ancestors to the West Timor people, especially the people of Tunbab. These given culture is still exist until today. The existence of piper betle and areca nut chew invite's everyone from every tripe in Tunbab to participate starting from adults, young people and children. Because within this traditional culture contains values and meanings that benefits everyone's life. One of the values are: To have within one's self a sense of respect among the elders, parents and those who hold an authority to serve and give order as a leader among them. Togetherness in this kind of culture unites them into one big family because they chew piper betle and areca nut from the same place which is called in the local language *kabi* or *oko mama*. The culture of piper betle and areca nut chew are a brotherhood culture because they sat down together to share the meaning of life, to talk about their children's studies, and to discuss matters to have an idea or solution to solve each problem that they have within themselves and the community of Tunbab's people. These tradition contains life aspects, which forms togetherness of the people of Tunbab. Those are: Social aspect, social structure, brotherhood system, social relation, economic aspect and religious aspect. More than those, piper betle and areca nut chew contain many functions. Those are: Brotherhood value, unity value, value of honor to others and ancestors. Piper betle and areca nut contains also functions for daily lives. Those are: Health function, social function, economic function, culture function, and it becomes a medicine for supernatural healing, and unites the people of the living and the death ancestors. Piper betle and areca nut chew for Tunbab's people, contains meaning to unite them in their daily lives. Those are: Boiological meaning, philosophical meaning, anthropological meaning, and cultural meaning.

Piper betle and areca nut chew possess a lot of meanings and has each benefits for common life. These culture until now is still being preserved by the people of Tunbab, and it becomes usual chew every day. This tradition can be useful for big evets like fiestas in the ancestral houses, wedding fiestas, or other meaningful events regarding gathering for death person of the community of Tunbab's people, and other important gatherings are mostly reserved. Piper betle and areca nut chew becomes an inspiration for the people of Tunbab to do daily works and duties, including relaxing time. Piper betle and areca nut becomes important and can be used for reconciling those who misunderstood each other of the member of the community, fighting among each member, or other problems within the community of Tunbab's people. By sitting them down together, they

express their feelings that has already hurt each other in front of those witness that they call. By doing this they become reconciled again. The meaning of this act is for having peace and love for them, so that they never hate each other anymore. Therefor piper betle and areca nut contains a hidden meaning and has the value to unites the people starting from adults, young people and children. More than these, this tradition must be hold on and handed over to be take could care by the young people and children for ever as a given culture.

**Keywords: Culture, the Value of Piper Betle and Areca Nut Chew, Its Benefits and Its Existence to Young People and Children.**