



UNIVERSITI TEKNOLOGI MARA

**INTEREST IN LEARNING GAMELAN AMONG BOARDING
SCHOOL STUDENTS IN JOHOR.**

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ABSTRACT

Traditional music is one of educational aspect that can provide benefits if it is studied and undergone formal or methodically. Therefore, traditional Malay music becomes one of the main aspects as the key for music education in Malaysian schools. In reality, there is no chance for student nowadays to learn traditional music formally unless it is introduced in education institutions in Malaysia. This research will focus only on one traditional music element which is the gamelan. Factors, main purpose, perceptions and the problems that arised when playing the gamelan is investigated. Sample of 60 students from 2 boarding schools in Johor including form 1, 2 and 3. Data was collected by questionnaire and take 30 minutes. Results indicated that most of the samples are interest to learn the gamelan with factors, main purpose and perceptions. At the same time, a bit of students didn't interest to learn it with the reason and problem. However, these researches were found that study and learning the gamelan is focuses on any aspects like teacher, friends, parents, self, schools, appreciation and the gamelan instruments. Playing gamelan is very enjoyable and release stress; fulfill the free times and as a leisure activity. These researches also determine that the recreation, emotion, future, self and talent as a main purpose to learn the gamelan. Overall, most of the students are really enjoy and happy while learning the gamelan although music is an elective subjects in schools.

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CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.0 Background of the study

In heading towards the new era reaching development and modernity, education plays an important role as one of the aspect that can affect the country's development. This can be seen from a person's ability to expand, interpret and to apply their skills of area in education. For example, subjects such as mathematics and science enable an individual to reach out and pursue their interest in medicine, architecture or engineering as one's career to become successful in life. Meanwhile, if individuals choose art stream subjects, they are able to make a living as a painter, musician, designer and so on and still be successful in their own lives. This is further substantiating with the statement contained in National Education Philosophy;

"Education in Malaysia is an ongoing effort towards further developing the potential of individuals in a holistic and integrated manner so as to produce individuals who are Intellectually, spiritually, emotionally, physically balanced and harmonious, based on a firm belief in and devotion to God"

(Huraian Sukatan Pendidikan Muzik, 1998, m.s. ii)

Referring to the statement above, it is more convincing to make education as an important as a basic requirement for us to achieve stability and success in life today. In this competitive era, the society today is thriving to be more successful with each individual's own career and they are being helped out with a systematic education that is reliable in Malaysia. Aside from that, the word 'education' shows the importance that it plays in life nowadays. With reference to the Oxford Advanced Learner dictionary, page 369, education is:

'A process of training and instruction, especially of children and young people in schools, colleges, which is designed to give knowledge and develop skills. In other words, education received by each individual should have a reflection of changes in the society and contribute to the individual's personal development himself'.

(Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary, 1998, pg 369)

Education cover various aspects like those above-mentioned and it its divided into various structures which involve calculation, idea, formula, information, discussion, practical, experience and various others. In education also, 'art' is one of the aspects under educational category which required idea, practical and well enough experiences in order to be able to master it. Musical education is one of the aspects in greater art elements that requires ideas, talent, thinking skills, skills to be able decide and experiences that cannot be acquired easily otherwise it is learnt on its own.

Music is a unique word and it is well known by all no matter how young and old that person is. When mentioned of music, we will surely be focused to the sound, song, lyric, composer, artist and others. However that is the only basic interpretation on music. In fact, music covers on a broad facet because without us realizing realize, it covers all aspect in our daily life. Humans are not to be missed from hearing all sorts of sounds from radio, television, vehicle, animal voice, human's voice and various others that can be found in their surrounding.