

**THE SYNCHRONIZATION OF MATHEMATICAL  
THINKING AND CREATIVITY IN THE  
PERFORMING ART OF MAK YONG**



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## PROPOSED EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Mak Yong is a performing art started somewhere in 1920 in few places of Terengganu, Pattani , Kelantan , Kedah , Perlis and Riau Islands. Mak Yong is performed as musical arts or as a way of medication. Mak Yong performance is started by opening song called as 'Mengadap Rebab' followed by drama, music and dance. Every session usually last within 3 hours.

The popularity of Mak Yong is deteriorating since 1960, during the reign of British in Malaysia who reduces the kings' economic status. Due to the above mentioned situation, there is a dire need for us to do a research on the performing art of Mak Yong as to show the importance of it in Malay Culture. The objectives that have been set up are.

- a. To study the elements in the performing art of Mak Yong.
- b. To study the evolution of ideas involved in the performing art of Mak Yong.
- c. To study the stimulation of mathematical thoughts and creativity in Mak Yong.

Due to the abovementioned research objectives, we proposed a qualitative study on it. In studying the elements of Mak Yong and evolution of ideas in Mak Yong, we placed an interview with Mak Yong dancers. In order to study the stimulation of mathematical thinking and creativity, we make an observation to analyze on video presentations to analyze on which part the above stimulation happens. Then we make a conclusion on where does mathematical thought happen and where does the creativity exists. During the interview session, we have set up interview scripts, whereas on the observation session, we make an observation set. An analysis is made upon the interview scripts and the observation set to draw a conclusion on the set of the objectives targeted.

## ABSTRACT

Mak Yong is a performing art state somewhere in 1920's in few places of Terengganu, Pattani, Kelantan, Kedah, Perlis and Riau Islands. The objectives of the research are to study the elements in the performing art of Mak Yong, the evolution of ideas involved and the stimulation of mathematical thoughts and creativity in Mak Yong. The research method utilized in the study was the triangulation method consisting of observation, interview and analysis. In studying the elements of Mak Yong and evolution of idea in Mak Yong, we placed an interview with three mak yong experts. Moreover, the study on the stimulation of mathematical thinking and creativity were done through making an observation on video presentations as to analyze on which part the mathematical thinking and creativity happens. The findings revealed that the elements of Mak Yong are the combination of songs, dance,,romance and comedy which is done in a single presentation. The evolution of idea take place in the techniques of dancing,singing and drama. The stimulation of mathematical thinking happens in three aspects that are reasoning process, pattern recognition and the counting process in the dancing session. The creativity could be traced in the increasing techniques of dancing and storytelling. It is suggested that further extensive research can be conducted on the evolution of design in Mak Yong's dancers costume.

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## CHAPTER 1

### THE SYNCHRONIZATION OF MATHEMATICAL THINKING AND CREATIVITY IN THE PERFORMING ART OF MAK YONG

#### 1.0 Introduction

Mak Yong is a performing art started somewhere in 1920 in few places of Terengganu, Pattani, Kelantan, Kedah, Perlis and Riau Islands. Mak Yong is performed as musical arts or as a way of medication. Mak Yong performance is started by opening song called as 'Mengadap Rebab' followed by drama, music and dance.

#### 1.1 Problem Statement

The popularity of Mak Yong was deteriorating in 1960, since the reign of British in Malaysia who reduces the king's economic states.

#### 1.2 Research Objectives

Our objective that has been set up as to study the elements of Mak Yong

1. To study the evolution of idea involved in the performing art of Mak Yong
2. To study the stimulation of mathematical thoughts and creativity in Mak Yong

#### 1.3 Research Questions

1. What are the important elements in the performing art of Mak Yong
2. What are the evolutions of idea involved in the performing art of Mak Yong

#### 1.4 Significance of Research

Due to the above mentioned situation, there is a dire need for us to do a research on the performing art of Mak Yong as to show the importance of it in Malay culture.

#### 1.5 Research Scope

The research scope is limited only on Mak Yong dancers in Kelantan