

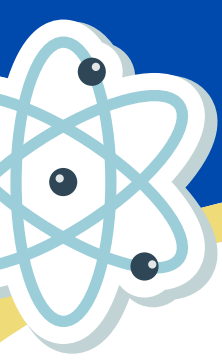


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Playful Heritage: The Legacy of Malay Traditional Games

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GULI (MARBLES)



Guli, also known as Kelereng is a game where the humble marble transforms into a vessel of boundless joy and excitement. One beloved version of this game stands out—players draw a circle in the sand, which becomes the arena for an enthralling battle of precision and tactics. In this classic contest, participants take turns, each aiming to expertly flick their own marble with just the right force and angle to knock their opponents' marbles out of the circle. The ultimate aim? To emerge as the master of marbles, boasting the largest collection at the game's end. Players come armed with their personal arsenal of marbles, each piece a prized contender in this high-stakes game of "keepsies," where victory means claiming the marbles of the fallen foes.

But the excitement doesn't end there. The game of Guli unfolds in myriad forms, from the precision-targeted shots aimed at knocking out specific target marbles to the skillful art of propelling marbles into meticulously crafted holes in the ground. Each variation not only tests the players' dexterity and strategic thinking but also invites them into a shared experience of joy, challenge, and the thrill of competition. Guli is a reminder of the simple pleasures that come from a handful of marbles, a patch of ground, and the company of friends eager to challenge the limits of their precision and imagination.





BATU SEREMBAN

Selambut, also known lovingly as Batu Seremban or Serembat, is a traditional game that weaves together skill and grace. This cherished pastime, varying in name from the north and east coasts (Selambut) to the west coast (Batu Seremban) of Peninsular Malaysia, captures the essence of communal joy and individual prowess.

Predominantly a game of girls, Selambut can be enjoyed solo or in lively groups of two to five players, creating a vibrant circle of participants. At the core of this game are the 'buah'—the game pieces that hold the magic. Whether it's five or seven, these pieces are the heartbeat of Selambut. Traditionally, the 'buah' were simple elements of nature: rubber seeds, pebbles, or small stones, each adding its own unique touch to the game's rhythm.

However, as times have evolved, so has the essence of Selambut. Today, players often opt for cloth bags, meticulously sewn and tenderly filled with saga seeds, sand, or other materials, adding a modern twist to this age-old game. These crafted pieces glide through the air, caught with skill and grace, as players navigate through the levels of the game.

CEPER (BOTTLE CAP)

Ceper, also affectionately known as "Tutup Botol" is a game that marked the childhoods of many during the 1970s and 1980s. This traditional game, often played with a sense of camaraderie among young children, utilises a simple yet ingenious tool: the humble bottle cap.

Requiring at least two participants, Ceper is more than just a game; it is a test of dexterity, strategic thinking, and the harmonious coordination of eyes and hands. Each player takes turns skillfully flipping their collection of five bottle caps, aiming to outmanoeuvre their opponents through a series of calculated moves and creative strategies.

The essence of the game lies in the "counting of successful ceper" - a thrilling moment where players weigh their flipped caps to score points. The excitement builds with each flick, as participants vie to showcase their mastery over their caps, blending finesse with quick thinking. Ceper is a testament to the creativity of play, where simple everyday objects are transformed into sources of endless fun and challenge.



CONGKAK

Believed to have originated during the time of the Malay Sultanate of Malacca, Congkak is a traditional game that has captivated the hearts of generations, dating back to a remarkable 600-year legacy. Primarily an indoor game, Congkak holds a special place in the community, especially among women and children.

Played by two opponents, the game unfolds on a beautifully crafted Congkak board, adorned with 14 holes or "kampung" (villages), and two larger end holes known as "rumah" (homes). Each participant strategically manoeuvres their set of "buah" - marbles, rubber seeds, or pebbles - across the board with the aim of capturing their opponent's pieces.



In some traditional variations, the earth itself becomes a part of the game, with holes carved directly into the ground, connecting players with the natural world. The objective is as elegant as it is challenging: to empty the adversary's side of pieces, gathering the spoils into one's "rumah." The victor emerges not just through the quantity of pieces claimed but also through strategic acumen and foresight.

LUMBA TEROMPAH TEMPURUNG (COCONUT SHELL CLOG RACE)



Step into tradition with the thrilling Coconut Shell Clog Race (Lumba TerompaH Tempurung), a unique and exciting game that transforms ordinary coconut shells into challenging footwear for racers. Crafted from the specially selected three-pointed coconut shells, each pair of clogs is ingeniously designed to test balance and agility. The creation process involves carefully piercing one of the shell's thinner sections to thread a durable rope through, securing wooden blocks on either end to fashion the makeshift clogs. Participants then gear up to dash across an open field, navigating from the starting line to the finish, which can span a heart-pumping distance of 20 to 30 metres. This game will definitely bring a touch of camaraderie and fun to any outdoor gathering.

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