

NAKAR: RITUAL PERALIHAN STATUS PENENUN PUA IBAN

(*NAKAR: RITE OF PASSAGE AN IBAN PUA WEAVER*)

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Abstract

Nakar ritual is the rite of passage for the Iban *pua* Weaver in Sarawak's Iban society. It is an obligation to follow instructions from a supernatural beings, such as gods, deities, spirits, and ancestors. *Nakar* ritual is also known as *Kayau Indu* (women warriors) which has been inherited for centuries, but the study of this ritual is yet to complete. In order to preserve the quality of the Iban *pua* weaving, the process of the *nakar* ritual is to be done properly. This paper will discuss the process of the *nakar* ritual and the change of status for the Iban *pua* Weaver after *nakar* ritual process is completed.

Keywords: *nakar* ritual, supernatural being, Iban *Pua* weaver, instructions & change of status

Ritual Nakar

Empiang Jabu (1991) menyentuh tentang pua kumbu sebagai warisan budaya yang menjadi kebanggaan orang Iban. Menurut beliau, masyarakat Iban amat bangga dengan budaya mereka yang kaya dengan memiliki kepakaran menenun kain pua kumbu yang amat unik dan tersendiri. Ritual *nakar* ialah ritual khas untuk kaum wanita Iban. Garvin, T. (1991) ritual *nakar* yang juga dikenali sebagai ritual *Kayau Indu* atau ritual *ngar* hanya boleh dijalankan oleh seseorang wanita jika dia mendapat kurniaan mimpi dan seterusnya menerima arahan atau *pengaroh* daripada kuasa luar biasa (*petara*, dewa-dewi, *antu*, semangat atau roh nenek moyang). Kerja-kerja ritual *nakar* ini tidak boleh