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# SIBA AS A CONTEMPORARY FASHION INSPIRATION

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The work entitled "Siba As Inspiration for Contemporary Clothing" was inspired by siba which is found in Minangkabau women's traditional clothing, namely the basiba kuruang shirt. Siba is a piece that is located on the left and right sides of the basiba kurung shirt which functions to increase the looseness of the clothes. The creators design clothes with innovative models into contemporary clothing. Creating this work with the aim of increasing the existence of the basiba kurung shirt and making it attractive to all Minangkabau women, and remaining in line with the Minangkabau adage, namely adat basandi syarak, syarak basandi Kitabullah. The process of embodiment of this work begins with exploration to produce sketches and designs, then the craftsmen carry out embodiments by sewing works using semi-boutique and boutique techniques. Using materials in accordance with the three concepts created. The works created by Siba as inspiration for contemporary fashion are three ready-to-wear works, two ready-to-wear delux works, and one houte couture work with each concept using the same color nuance.

Keywords: siba, clothing, contemporary

#### INTRODUCTION

Minangkabau customs are unique and distinctive when it comes to Islam. According to the philosophy of life of the Minangkabau ancestors, there is no conflict between custom and religion. As Ibn Amin said:

Custom and religion develop in harmony and go hand in hand without having to involve themselves in conflict. Because adat as a cultural institution in the midst of society occupies a balanced and harmonious position with religion. The relationship between custom and religion is beautifully framed in the saying: "Adat basandi Syarak, Syarak basandi

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Kitabullah. Syarak mangato adat wears. Camin nan kabua palito nan not extinguished" (2022: 21).

Based on the above opinion, it can be concluded that everything in Minangkabau customs is always guided by the teachings of Islam, including the way women dress in Minangkabau. The way women dress in Minangkabau since ancient times has been regulated to follow the teachings of Islam, namely loose and covering the aurat. However, the phenomenon that occurs today is that many young people, even adults, dress no longer in accordance with custom and religion. Fashion trends change with the times. The way women dress today in Minangkabau often follows western fashion trends that tend to be open and show the curves of the body. Whereas in Minangkabau there are traditional clothes that are distinctive and loose in accordance with Islamic teachings, namely kuruang basiba clothes.Baju kuruang basiba merupakan pakaian adat khas perempuan Minangkabau di Sumatera Barat. Kekhasan itu dapat dilihat pada bentuknya yang longgar atau lapang dengan panjangnya sampai ke batas lutut, mempunyai siba, kikiak pada ketiak, lenganya panjang sampai ke pergelangan tangan, leher tanpa kerah, dan di bagian depan sedikit dibelah sebatas dada. Baju ini hampir dipakai di kehidupan keseharian mereka ataupun dalam upacaraupacara adat tradisional Minangkabau. (Desra Imelda, 2016).

Based on pengkarya's field interview with the head of Bundo Kanduang Nagari Simarasok, Asdelly Syam, on March 13, 2023 stated that kuruang basiba clothes have the following characteristics:

### A. Siba

Siba is found on the left and right sides of the kuruang basiba shirt in Minang language called batanti or reciprocal. The meaning is the ability of a woman in Minangkabau to unite something that is contradictory or at odds. Bundo kanduang must be a mediator and facilitator or as a connector of tongues in resolving disputes or problems.

## B. Kikiak

Kikiak functions as an armpit protector on the collar of the arm. The meaning is to cover a woman's armpits which are aurat, symbolizing that a woman must have raso pareso or shyness, polite and polite.

## C. Knee-length and Loose Shirt

The kuruang basiba shirt is knee-length, then has a loose size. The meaning is that Minangkabau women know the rules and do not behave arbitrarily.

#### D. Loose Sleeves

Airy or loose sleeves function is to make it easy to do activities. The meaning is that Minangkabau women are free to carry themselves and adjust themselves. For example, it is easy to worship, namely ablution, and can carry out various activities such as helping your husband, taking care of children, and doing other activities.

### E. Neck

A round neck with a slight slit and no collar serves as a place for jewelry. Symbolizes the prosperity of Minangkabau women from the jewelry they use.

From the description above, it can be concluded that the kuruang basiba shirt is a traditional Minangkabau women's clothing that has five distinctive features as a condition for saying the shirt. The meaning contained in the parts of the shirt illustrates how valuable the existence of a woman in Minangkabau is, so that her honor must be protected. One of them is by wearing clothes that are closed and polite.



Picture 1. Kuruang Basiba shirt (Photo: Nidya Sukma Hanifa, 2023)

Speaking of contemporary, Sri Budi Lestari (2014) said that:

Dressing is displaying a message, revealing identity as a person or group identity. The issue of dressing as identity is a form of social dialectic in articulating reality. Fashion conveys messages and is an image to emphasize various social functions in social transformation. In addition, clothing also serves to express social status and standardization of norms through its use. In a multiculturalist country like Indonesia, the use of fashion is very helpful in identifying one's origin, taste, and occupation.

Malcolm Barnard (1976: v) states that:

Clothing is one of the most obvious of a whole range of outward markings by which people set themselves apart from others and, in turn, are identified with a particular group. the outward appearance of minority groups shapes our ideas about individuals in society as a whole. When a woman is shown in traditional costume, the effect of the visual footage is to create a certain image of the past and place the woman within it.

Speaking of contemporary, Susanti (2011: 12) says that:Kontemporer adalah salah satu cabang seni yang terpengaruh dampak modernisasi. Kontemporer itu artinya kekinian, modern atau sesuatu yang sama dengan kondisi waktu yang sama atau saat ini, jadi seni kontemporer adalah seni yang berkembang sesuai zaman sekarang. Lukisan kontemporer adalah karya yang secara tematik merefleksikan situasi.

Based on some of the opinions above, it can be concluded that contemporary fashion is the clothes worn by a person and these clothes can describe his or her identity. People who wear contemporary fashion are those who follow the latest fashion trends, in accordance with the changing times. Usually, the characteristics of contemporary fashion design are more daring, explorative, and modern. The purpose of this work is to create fashion with new innovations inspired by the siba in kuruang basiba clothes. In addition, the clothes can be worn by all Minangkabau women in particular, and people who love contemporary fashion. Therefore, contemporary fashion inspired by siba was designed and realized.

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### **METHOD**

In creating the work, the following methods were used:

## **Exploration**

Preparation is done by finding as much information as possible about kuruang basiba clothes and contemporary fashion. This can be done by interviewing and observing the specified objects.



Picture 2. Basiba by Tuty Adib (Source: Whatsapp 2023)

The work above is used as a reference because it is a dress that has a siba. Tuti Adib made the work and then combined it with traditional materials. Pengkarya made the work as a reference because it also uses traditional materials such as songket. In addition, the work is a modification of the kuruang basiba dress. Tuty Adib changed the kuruang shirt model into a gamis shape. This is a reference for the author, because she will make a dress using siba pieces on the left and right sides of the dress.

## **Creation Concept**

The siba on kuruang basiba dress became an inspiration in the creation of this contemporary fashion. The kuruang basiba shirt with the uniqueness of the siba cut on the left and right sides of the shirt, became the main point in every shirt created. Likewise with the kikiak found on each shirt. With the addition of

unique pieces and the latest innovations, making some new forms in contemporary clothing. The colors applied to this work refer to the colors found in the rural trend which is in the soul of search group in the 2024 forcesting trend, namely Co-Exist.

The first three works with the concept of ready to wear were realized with pieces of kuruang basiba clothes, then added with several additional pieces that added new innovations to this clothing model. The materials used in this concept are toyobo cotton with ocean colors and madina cotton with emerald and mint colors. This concept was combined with long balai weaving with singo badongkak motif. The final finishing of the three works was given a touch of floral embroidery in the form of roses and a series of leaf motifs with matching colors. In the ready to wear delux concept, the work was realized using brown maxmara crown and black brydal sateen. Then combined with Balai Panjang weaving with pucuak rabuang motif in black background, while the motif is copper-colored. The final completion of this work was decorated with sequins with colors that matched the fabric at the neck and several other parts. The last work with the concept of houte couture was designed with a long dress cut. This work was made with mauvecolored leadersilk, combined with Balai Panjang weaving with several shades of purple. This work also uses organza material to give a luxurious and elegant impression. The techniques used in the process of making the work are semiboutique techniques and boutique techniques. For the final touch, the work is decorated with sequins.

### **Trend**

Changes in mindset from the uncertain impact of the pandemic period gave birth to perceptions that are divided into four consumer groups for fashion trend forcasting 2024. The four consumer profiles formed in the big theme of coexist are The survivors, the soul search, and the self improvers. In this work, the author focuses on the rural trend in the soul search group. The soul search describes seeking tranquility in remote beautiful places. Enjoying the beauty of

the natural atmosphere in the countryside, soaking in the romance of the simplicity of the local people really gives a sense of relaxation and peace. The soul searchers' colors are natural colors in pastel shades that are soothing and calming. Bold colors can be added to give a joyful impression. In this group, the artist chose the rural trend as a reference for the work. Rural depicts that no matter how remote the place, the warmth of the atmosphere and the friendliness of the people give beautiful memories.

### Moodboard

The moodboard compiled refers to the colors in the rural trend which are in the soul of search group. Among them, there are three colors chosen, namely brown shades with code 996633, turquoise derivatives with code 2ABB9B, and purple derivatives with code CC9CC. The color arrangement contained in the moodboard is also based on the color arrangement contained in the 2023-2024 rural trend. On the moodboard can be seen kuruang basiba clothes, ready to wear clothes, songket as a combination in the work, and several pictures showing the results of embroidery, and the results of sequins. That is because the decorative technique that will be applied to the ready to wear work is the embroidery technique, while the houte couture work will apply the sequin technique.



Picture 3. Mood board (Design by: Nidya Sukma Hanifa, 2023)

# **Technique**

The technique applied in this creation is the semi boutique technique in ready to wear and ready to wear delux works. This technique is a technique that is still considered standard and is applied to party attire and everyday clothing. Meanwhile, haute couture works apply boutique techniques or also known as haute couture techniques. The haute couture technique is a high-level manufacturing technique with a more detailed and thorough manufacturing process.

Meanwhile, the decorative techniques applied are embroidery application techniques on ready to wear works, and sequin applications on ready to wear delux and houte couture works. The motif created in each decorative technique is a flower arrangement motif.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

# 1. Ready To Wear



Picture 4. Desain terpilih 1. *Ready to wear delux.* (Desain Oleh : Nidya Sukma, 2023)

Ready-to-wear clothing with four pieces of clothing, namely a kuruang basiba shirt, vest, A line skirt, and a layer attached to the outside of the skirt. This work still applies several characteristics of the kuruang basiba shirt, namely

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siba on the left and right, kikiak, and a neck with a slit. The symmetrical shape on the left and right gives the work a balanced impression. Colors with shades of green depict an element of harmony in the work. Nijdam wrote that in his book Theory of Colors, Goethe stated that "every color gives a positive impression and a negative impression which affects emotions. The color of the work is turquoise green which provides calm. In accordance with the ready to wear function which will be used for casual activities. The vest at the top of the shirt gives a casual impression, with Madina colored cotton material... the low neck on the vest with woven material with a singo badongkak pattern gives a feminine impression. The singo mandongkak motif illustrates that everything in nature has signs of the state of nature itself. Embroidery with floral motifs, namely a series of interlocking leaves and the addition of roses in green, adds to the impression of calm, and makes the clothes not look monotonous.

# 2. Ready to wear delux



Picture 5. Hasil Karya *Ready To Wear Delux* 1 (Foto: Farhan, 2023)

This semi-formal sewing technique consists of two pieces of clothing, namely a modified kuruang basiba shirt and a skirt. The ready to wear delux concept can be seen from the use of materials in the concept of this work. Maxmara crown material with its shiny or glossy properties gives a luxurious impression so it is very suitable to be taken to parties. Likewise with the shiny and glossy

bridal sateen material, only this material is thicker than the Maxmara crown. To give a luxurious but still elegant impression, the creator chose songket material with denser motifs compared to the motifs on ready-to-wear materials. The motif applied to this material is the pucuak rabuang motif. In the Minangkabau proverb, the pucuak rabuang motif is a metaphor that Minagkabau people must be able to prepare themselves from childhood, adulthood to old age in various ways in order to be useful to others, like the Minangkabau proverb "ketek baguno, gadang tapakai." Syafei (2021). What this means is that bamboo, when it forms shoots, can be used as food. Meanwhile, when it grows into stems, bamboo has many benefits, such as for buildings and crafts. The piece of clothing with two layers connected at the left and right seams is a point of interest. The shape is not symmetrical, but does not eliminate the principle of balance. Aesthetics can be seen from the pieces of cloth tied on both sleeves. The skirt is cut with a span and has drapery on the front to add aesthetic value. Skirts are made from maksmara material because maksmara has the characteristic of falling and being thin. Aesthetic principles are applied to this work by adding an abstract arrangement of sequins. Sequins with a combination of gold and brown colors give a sparkling impression, making it more luxurious and elegant.

## 3. Houte couture





Picture 6. Hasil Karya *Houte Couture* (Foto: Herlinda, 2023)

This final work with the highest and most detailed manufacturing techniques uses colors from the rural trend, namely heather, which is a derivative of purple. The color purple in psychology is interpreted as balance, peace and intuitiveness. Apart from color, the value of balance in this work can also be seen from the manifestation of triangular pieces sewn in an orderly manner on the front, sides and back of the shirt. The embodiment of the triangular cut on this shirt also applies one of the design elements, namely repetition, because each cut is the same size. The artist still uses siba pieces on the left and right sides of the shirt, and still uses kikiak. The realization of the A line silhouette which is wider than the previous works was done by making triangular pieces from woven material. These pieces are installed alternately with the main material of the clothes, namely leadersilk.

The beauty of this shirt is realized by providing a series of flower petal-shaped pieces at the neck, and three pieces of cloth shaped like a long plane that increase in size towards the bottom which are hung at the bottom of the neck. The pieces are arranged randomly so as not to be monotonous, but still balanced. Apart from that, the beauty of this work is realized by placing sequins on the neck and sleeves.

### CONCLUSION

The creation of the work entitled Siba as inspiration for contemporary fashion was made using materials adapted to the function of the work. The work refers to the rural trend and applies the colors of this trend, namely turquoise, purple, brown and black. By going through a series of creation processes, three ready to wear works were produced, with shades of green, ready to wear delux with shades of brown and black, and houte couture with purple. The works are made using semi boutique techniques in ready to wear and ready to wear delux works. The style of houte couture works is made using boutique techniques.

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