Understanding the Esthetic Concept of
Suluk Wayang Kulit Parwa  Yogyakarta Style

Kasidi Hadiprayitno

Jurusan Pedalangan, Fakultas Seni Pertunjukan, Institut Seni Indonesia Yogyakarta, Indonesia

Abstract

This analisize is focused on the sulukan in the wayang of Yogyakarta tradition, particularly in the Joged Mataraman. This forms the material object, the formal object being the aesthetics within the show. The Joged Mataraman contains characteristics namely sawiji, greged, sengguh, ora mingkuh, the implementation of which are wiraga, wirama and wirasa. The basic idea of these is the conviction of the unity of man and God. This study of sulukan wayang is aimed to understand, (a) the sulukan wayang; (b) the catageries of sulukan; and (c) the essence of its aesthetics and ethics, and (d) the relevance of aesthetics to the morality of the people. The results shows that the aesthetics and ethics have their own pattern in explaining the main characters in the wayang and their function is to mark the ambience of the scene and to direct the gamelan musicians. The composition of the sulukan is based on special metrics, namely kakawin, kidung, and macapat. Based this metrics there are still found other special metrics. In the actual performance the sulukan wayang communicates moral teaching, namely the keeping of promises, the ethics of leadership, the pursuit of perfection. As morality is deemed most necessary in the character building be performed in all social strata throughout the country.

Keywords: Sulukan, aestheticsm ethics, and national morality