Bull-Riding in New Mexico and Bull-Racing in Madura:

A Comparative Cultural Study

A FINAL PROJECT

In Partial Fulfillment of the Requirements
For S-1 Degree in American Studies
In English Department, Faculty of Humanities
Diponegoro University

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FACULTY OF HUMANITIES

DIPONEGORO UNIVERSITY

SEMARANG

2017

PRONOUNCEMENT

The writer states truthfully that this final project is compiled by him without taking any results from other researchers in S-1, S-2, S-3 and in diploma degree of any universities. In addition, the writer ascertains also that he does not take the material from other publications or someone's work except for the references mentioned.

Semarang, 11 September 2017

Septyan Adi Prabowo

MOTTO AND DEDICATION

For indeed, with hardship (will be) ease. Indeed, with hardship (will be) ease.

(QS Al-Inshirah, Verses 5-6)

The Strong person is not the good wrestler. Rather, the strong person is the one who controls himself when he is angry.

(Sahih al-Bukhari, Book 73, #135)

This paper dedicated to my beloved family, and

to everyone who helped me to accomplished this paper.

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ACKNOWLEGDMENT

All praise to Allah SWT, who has given strenght, blessing and guidance so this final project "Bull-Riding in New Mexico and Bull-Racing in Madura: A Comparative Cultural Study" came to a completion. On this occasion, the writer would like to thank all of those people who have contribute to the completion of this final project.

The deepest gratitude and appreciation are extended to Drs. Siswo Harsono, M.Hum – my advisor – who has given his continuous guidance, helpful correction, moral support, advice, and suggestion in completion of this final project. The writer's deepest thank also goes to the following :

1. Dr. Redyanto M. Noor, M.Hum., as the Dean of Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.

2. Dr. Agus Subiyanto, M.A., as the Head of English Department, Faculty of Humanities, Diponegoro University.

3. All of the lecturers in English Department, Faculty of Humanities Diponegoro University for their sincere dedication.

4. The writer's beloved parents, Sukatno and Suparmi, who always give love, prayers, support, and advice. The writer's sister Armi Habsari and writer's brother Hery Prasetyo who give unconditional support.

5. The writer's friends in English Department, Diponegoro University batch 2012, class of American Studies, member of English Department Futsal team, for giving him memorable time in his life.

6. The writer's best friends : Saiq Husein, Faisal Hira, Fery Mahendratama, Emha Afif, Adityo Widhi, Rizal Yunianto, Riza Alun, Abirzaim, A.R. Indra, Erzal Pratomo, Richie Adi, Hilman Rasyid, Ulin Nuha, Aldi Fahrizal, Nicodemus, Michael Advendri.

7. The writer's highschool bestfriend : Hady, Gesit, Hanafi, Sonny, Dimas, Charis, Nicky, Anjani, Asmi, Alifia, Juli.

8. And those who help, advise, and encourage him that cannot be mentioned one by one.

The writer realizes that this final project is still far from perfect, thus, he will be glad to receive any constructive criticisms and recommendation to make this final project better.

Finnaly, the writer expects that this final project will be useful to the readers who wish to learn something about Bull-Riding and bull-racing.

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Semarang, 11 September 2017

Septyan Adi Prabowo

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ABSTRACT

Bull that we oftenly see around us or in television is mostly used as a cattle. Yet, in some countries bull has their own role. In America and in Indonesia, bull is not only used as a cattle, but it is also used in a sport. In America there is a rull-riding sport called 'Rodeo'. If we mention rodeo, mostly we will think of a cowboy. In Indonesia there is also a bull-racing sport which Indonesian people called it as *Karapan Sapi*. This sport is really famous as a traditional culture from Madura. This paper will discuss some similarities and some differences that we can find in both sports.

Keywords : *bull, Rodeo, cowboy, Karapan Sapi.*

INTRODUCTION

Bulls are herbivorous animal used by farmer to help them in field, or for livestock. In an article, Naveen (2011) wrote about bull:

> "the term bull commonly refers to the reproductive male cattle, and they are not castrated animals. Usually, bulls are commonly kept for stud services as well as for working and sometimes, for meat purposes."

However in some countries bulls are used as a part of a sport, for example in America and Indonesia. In America they have bull-riding, or we oftenly called it as 'Rodeo'. While in Indonesia, they have bull-racing, and people called it as '*Karapan Sapi*'.

The history of American bull-riding started in 16th century in Old Mexico. Jesse Bussard (2014) wrote in an article which said:

> "bull riding originated in *charreadas*, contests of ranch and horsemanship skills that developed on the haciendas of Old Mexico. First termed *jaripeo*, bull riding was originally a variant of bull fighting where riders would literally ride the bull to death. It later evolved into an event where participants merely rode the bull until it tired and stopped bucking."

In the 16th century, bull-riding, known as a contest for the society in Old Mexico. Most of people in Old Mexico work and live in ranch environtment. The context of Bull-Riding at the time was a contest for the riders who have to ride the bull to death. However, in this era they still have no specific rules for Bull-Riding.

Madura is an island located close to Java island. In Madura, there is a traditional culture called as *Karapan Sapi*. *Karapan Sapi* is a very famous culture from Madura. *Karapan Sapi* is a bull-bacing competition. As quoted from an

article entitled "*Karapan Sapi*, Indonesian Traditional Bull Racing", Yovita Siswati (2012) wrote about *Karapan Sapi*;

> "bull racing in Madura Island had its root well laid centuries ago. It is one of the oldest native sports in the world. The game was originally conducted on rice fields. It was designed as a fun way to plow rice field and prove the strengths of the animals. Karapan sapi was further popularized by Prince Kantadur from local kingdom of Sumenep in the 13th century."

The history of bull-racing in Madura started in 13th century and popularized by Prince Katandur of Sumenep. This bull-racing was actually a traditional ceremony which held to celebrate the successfull harvest by the Madura people.

In this paper the writer will discuss American bull-riding and Indonesian bull-racing. According to The Oxford English Dictionary, sport has definition as "*an activity involving physical exertion and skill in which an individual or team competes against another or others for entertainment*". Based on the definition of sport above, the writer can say that bull-racing and bull-riding are included as sport. The writer will compare bull-riding and bull-racing as a sport and part of culture that using bulls. As the main objects, the writer has downloaded two videos from Youtube. First is a video of bull-riding untitled "Wild Thing Championship Bull Riding 2013", uploaded by B. Hood. In this video, the bull-riding competition is held in New Mexico. Second is the video of bull-racing untitled "Bull Racing in Sumenep, Madura Indonesia" uploaded by Yachtmrjohnvi. By looking the title, we know that the bull-racing is held in Sumenep, Madura.

2

THEORITICAL FRAMEWORK

2.1 Culture

Culture can be interpreted in many aspects. Ellya Rosana (2017) in her journal titled "*Dinamisasi Kebudayaan Dalam Realita Sosial*" quote some definition about culture;

1. Koentjaraningrat (1989); *Kebudayaan merupakan suatu sistem gagasan, tindakan, dan hasil karya manusia dalam rangka memenuhi kehidupan masyarakat.*
2. E.B.Tylor (1897); *Kebudayaan adalah kompleks yang menyangkut pengetahuan, kepercayaan, kesenian, moral, hukum, adat istiadat, kemampuan, dan kebiasaan lain yang didapatkan oleh manusia sebagai anggota masyarakat.*
3. Selo Soemardjan dan Soelaiman Soemardi (1964); *Kebudayaan merupakan hasil karya, rasa, dan cipta masyarakat.*

In English, it will be;

1. Koentjaraningrat (1989); Culture is a system of ideas, actions, and the work of human beings in order to fulfill the life of society.
2. E.B. Tylor (1897); Culture is that complex whole which includes knowledge, belief, art, law, morals, custom, and any other capabilities and habits acquired by man as a member of society.
3. Selo Soemardjan dan Soelaiman Soemardi (1964); Culture is the work, taste, and createion of society.

According to the definitions above, the important point of culture is that it is an activity transfered from generation to generation in particular society, as well as Bull-Riding in America and Bull-Racing in Indonesia.

2.2 Intrinsic Aspects

Intrinsic aspects can be defined as the all elements presented and shown in the video. In this reasearch the writer will analyse the setting and the outfit shown in the videos.

- Setting

  M.H. Abrams (1999) wrote about setting;

  > The overall setting of a narrative or dramatic work is the general locale, historical time, and social circumstances in which its action occurs; the setting of a single episode or scene within such a work is the particular physical location in which it takes place (M.H.Abrams:1999).

- Clothes or Costume

  Therése Andersson (2011) stated about clothes or costume :

  > Clothes are a key feature in the construction of cinematic identities, and one of the tools filmmakers have for telling a story. Costume design is intentionally made to support the narrative, and everything that appears on screen is carefully selected – every costume and accessory is a deliberate choice made by a designer (T.Andersson:2011)

The definition of setting and outfit above will help the writer to analyse the place as the arena and also the outfit wear by the players in the video of Bull-Racing and Bull-Riding.

2.3 Comparative Study

The writer uses this theory, because the writer will analyse the similarites and the differences of two objects;

> "the design of comparative research is simple. Your objects are specimens or cases which are similar in some respects (otherwise, it would not be meaningful to compare them) but they differ in some respects. These differences become the focus of examination" (Anonymous:2007).

2.4 Cinematic Theory

Each frame size of the pictures has different meanings and impressions that shown by the director or the video maker. *Close up, Medium shot, Long shot or Point of view shot* depend on the director. Camera angle also will help the director to convey the story of the film.

"The Close-up is traditionally the shot showing just the head, hands, feet, or a small object. It emphasizes facial expression, the details of a gesture, or a significant object" (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008:191). This shot is usually used to give identification, intensity and intimacy of the scene. The *Medium Close-up* is a technique that is position in the middle of the Close-up and Medium Shot. *"The Medium Close-up frames the body from the chest up"* (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008:191). It reveals only a little of the surroundings. The *Medium Shot* is the most frequently technique used in the movies and video making. *"The medium shot frames the human body from the waist up. Gesture and expression now become more visible"* (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008:191). It shows the subject in a more detailed view and it permits some of the background to be seen. The *Medium Long Shot* is shot scale that frames from about the knees up of the character. *"These are common, since they permit a nice balance of figure and surroundings"* (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008:191). The last is *Long Shot*, it frames the whole of the character's body that gives a wide view of the background. *"*In the long shot figure are more prominent, but the background still dominates*"* (Bordwell and Thompson, 2008:191). This theories will help to analyse the condition in some pictures taken from the video.

3

METHOD OF RESEARCH

In this paper the writer uses library research method to collect the data. The term of library research does not always mean about the library itself, but it can refers to the content of library that can be used as a references to collect the data or information needed by the writer. The writer uses some books and internet sources as references and data that related to this paper. The other method used by the writer is close viewing method. According to facinghistory.org;

> "like close reading of text, close viewing of film media is carefully and purposefully viewing and *reviewing* a film clip in order to focus on what the filmmaker is trying to convey, the choices the filmmaker has made, the role of images, narration, editing, and sound, and what the film's purpose might be" (facinghistory.com:2017).

The writer uses this method to analyse intrinsic aspetcs of the video, such as setting and outfit. This research based on cultural criticism approach. This approach help the writer to analyse the objects in this essay because the main objects in this essay are part of a culture.

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