**Gamelan Music as a Pillar of Sovereignty of the Kraton Surakarta**

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Abstract

The sovereignty of a country, including the Surakarta Palace before September 1 1945, requires pillars to support the upholding of state sovereignty. Sovereignty and the victory of self-respect cannot be achieved without a strong pillar of support. The Surakarta Palace has three important elements, namely king, pradangga, and procedures. *Raja* is the sole ruler of a kingdom who rules a kingdom. His power is absolute, all decisions and government policies are the authority of the king. *Pradangga* is an institution that supports gamelan sounding activities in state and family rites. Supporting the existence of *pradangga* were *abdi dalem niyaga* (royal musicians), gamelan and gending. *Tatacara* are rites held at the Surakarta Palace on certain days based on the Javanese calendar. *Raja, pradangga* dan *tatacara* are the pillars of the sovereignty of the Surakarta Palace to ensure the preservation of its life. These three elements form a single unit that forms a system because the relationships that are built between the three elements are interrelated and interdependent. *Raja, pradangga* dan *tatacara* in the context of state sovereignty are the pillars supporting the upholding of the sovereignty of the Surakarta Palace. *Raja* who has the highest power cannot guarantee the upholding of the sovereignty of the Surakarta Palace if it is not supported by *pradangga* and *tatacara*. The relationship between *raja* and *pradangga*, *raja* and *tatacara*, and the *pradangga* and *tatacara*  ultimately became the supporting pillar of the sovereignty of the Surakarta Palace.

Keywords: Surakarta Palace, system, r*aja, pradangga*, *tatacara*