

# 8. Sandiwara Daerahof Radio Republik Indonesia Yogyakarta and Surakarta, 1950s-1990s

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## **Sandiwara Daerah of Radio Republik Indonesia Yogyakarta and Surakarta, 1950s-1990s**

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### **Abstract**

This article discusses *Sandiwara Daerah* [regional plays] organized by Radio Republik Indonesia Yogyakarta and Surakarta by applying historical method. This article shows that *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts on Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI) Yogyakarta and Surakarta had been held since the 1950s. The performance of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast profoundly related to the position of RRI as a government cultural media which exclusively responsible for disseminating regional cultures. Sumardjono and Maria Kailasih are prominent figures in the production process of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta, as well as Siti Amisah who became a key figure in the production process of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta. *Sandiwara Daerah* is an event favored by the Javanese people. Nevertheless, *Sandiwara Daerah* experienced a decline since the private radios launched *Sandiwara Radio* in 1990.

**Keywords:** Radio Broadcasts; *Sandiwara Daerah*; Radio Republik Indonesia.

### **Introduction**

Radio promptly gained wide participation from the Indonesian's society in the early 20th century, exceedingly with the emergence of amateur radio. Gradually, several radio amateurs were developed, owning stations, and broadcasting. These radios have different visions, missions, and orientations along with the dynamics of community development. Kaan (2017) has explored the relationship between radio and identity politics in the Dutch East Indies (1927-1942). According to him, almost all radios during the Dutch colonial period strictly segmented the East and West audiences, and were involved in the segmentation of the Dutch East Indies' society. Radio continued to catalyze the polarization of East and West identities, weakening the social cohesion and stability among the Dutch East Indies' society.

During the Japanese occupation in Indonesia (1942-1945) there was a dramatic change in the world of radio broadcasting. Broadcasting was under the supervision of the

Japanese Military Government which treated under strict censorship and was entirely devoted to achieving the objectives of national policy as well as conditioning the public mind, this was done in order to accept and respect national goals [according to the Japanese military perspective]. Hence, the Japanese Military Government built a centralized broadcasting system. All private radio broadcasts were 'frozen' and rearranged by a special service called *Hoso Kani Kyoku*, which was a radio center station based in Jakarta along with 15 branch stations (*Hoso Kyoku*) and all Indonesian staff (Lindsay, 1997, p. 110). *Hoso Kyoku*'s broadcast was mainly consisting of war propaganda. The programs were permitted to broadcast in Indonesian language. *Hoso Kyoku* also gave encouragement to the development of Indonesian music broadcasts (Ministry of Information, 1953, p. 22).

During the independence era, radio also played an important role in the life of Indonesian society. Wild (1986) has demonstrated that during the revolutionary period (1945-1950) radio had a

huge impact in the struggle of Indonesian nation. The role of radio was also significant in understanding Indonesia's history during 1950s-1960s as indicated by Lindsay (2011, p. 25), Puguh (2017) conducted a study that primarily address on the role of Radio Republik Indonesia (RRI) in 1945-1960 period by focusing on RRI Surakarta. Within the period, RRI Surakarta had two roles in the context of decolonization. In 1945-1949, RRI Surakarta played a role in defending Indonesia's independence, meanwhile in 1950-1960s, RRI Surakarta participated in efforts to form a national culture. In addition, there have some discourses on radio broadcasts by several experts both from within and outside the country. Lindsay (1997) discusses private radio and local identity in Indonesia; Mardianto and Darmanto (2001) discuss the Javanese literary tradition of radio; and Puguh (2015) in one of the chapters of his dissertation, discusses broadcasts of Javanese performing arts in RRI Surakarta.

From the previous studies, it can be examined that radio has played an vital role in Indonesian history. Unlike in the aforementioned studies, this article discusses one of the cultural programs in RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta, which favored by the RRI's audiences, specifically the Javanese community, namely Javanese radio plays or known as *Sandiwara Daerah*. The locus of this article is RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta, it stands to reason, because RRI Yogyakarta was a pioneer of *Sandiwara Daerah* program, while RRI Surakarta was later able to overtake the pioneers of RRI Yogyakarta in organizing Regional Drama. The discussion of this article focuses on the creative process and the response of listeners to these cultural broadcast programs without neglecting the genesis aspects of the program's existence regarding its origin and development. To gain a complete understanding, the previous section also discussed the position of RRI as a government cultural medium that could be utilized to understand the existence of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts.

## Method

This article was arranged by applying historical method which consists of four phases, namely

source collection, source assessment, interpretation, and reconstruction. The sources were consisting of written and audiovisual. Written sources in the form of contemporary sources consisting of *Pedoman Radio*, *Berita Radio*, *Mingguan Radio Republik Indonesia*, *Djajabaja*, *Mekar Sari*, *Dharma Kanda*, and *Kompas*. The research results derived from various scientific publications, including articles, monographs, and books. The oral sources conducted by interviewing some informants, such as Siti Aminah, the person in charge of broadcasting the *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta. In addition, there should be Maria Kadarsih that must be interviewed. However, the author was unable to interview Maria Kadarsih directly, so that we have used audio visual sources containing testimony about Kadarsih's role when she involved in *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta. These source has been broadcasted by TVRI Yogyakarta on February 15, 2019 at the Kang Tedjo Pendopo. These sources are substantially relevant, important, and credible for the arrangement of this article, because they provide accurate information related to the topics. The facts are selected and sorted based on the relevant subject. These are linked on the basis of the principle of chronology and cause and effect. Afterwards, by the historical imagination, the facts are reconstructed into a written story which so-called history (history as written) (Black & MacRaid, 2007).

## RRI as Government Cultural Media

RRI was established in the Conference which was held in Jakarta, on September 11, 1945, after dealing with struggle of thoughts and struggles of Indonesian national leaders. At the beginning of its growth, RRI had to experience the dynamics of history along with a wave of struggle to defend the independence from the invasion of Dutch troops who wanted to regain power in Indonesia. RRI broadcasts became incendiary tools and propelling to the struggle for the independence. Thus, it can be stated that since its founding, RRI has been an outcome the revolution which become a center of command for the patriotic struggle to defend the independence. In the development, when Indonesia entered a new phase in 1950, RRI

remained the main wave proclaiming for struggle and at the same time carrying out its function as a means of entertaining the people and spreading culture (Wild, 1986; "Sambutan," 1955, p. 3). Through the airwaves, RRI tried to deliver the conscience of the Indonesian nation, as a fully independent nation and owning a national culture ("Tradisi," p. 3).

Based on the above facts, it is not surprising that Sen and Hill (2000, pp. 82-84) state that RRI was established in order to support government programs. Thus, since its establishment, RRI has become a political and cultural media for the government. Therefore, it is inconceivable for RRI to carry through broadcast politics as opposed to government politics. RRI is necessary to participate in maintaining the state safety, particularly by organizing broadcasts which able to maintain the national unity (Ministry of Information, 1953, p. 252; "Sembilan," p. 3). As a consequence, RRI had a monopoly on broadcasting national news, and its regional branches gave part of its broadcast time for local programs (Lindsay, 1997, p. 111).

The implementation of this policy dealt with the content of RRI broadcast programs, especially a series of national broadcast, must be regulated in such a way to embody the interests of all Indonesian people (Effendy, 1978, p. 69). Meanwhile, regional RRI has the privilege to broadcast programs based on its own choice, as long as it is parallel with the established policy and program lines; both by the government and RRI itself ("Sembilan," p. 4). The Regional RRI is obliged to devote part of its time to relay the program broadcast by RRI Jakarta as the central station. One of the RRI Jakarta programs that must be relayed every day by the Regional RRI is *Warta Berita Nasional*. *Warta Berita Nasional* is broadcast every day at 06:00, 07:00, 08:00, 13:00, 14:00, 14:45, 20:00, 21:00, and 22:00 Indonesian Time (WIB) ("Sambutan," p. 3). Likewise, RRI Jakarta also compiled a newsletter entitled *Varia Nusantara* which was not obliged to be relayed by RRI Daerah. *Varia Nusantara* is consistently broadcast at 18:00 WIB. Meanwhile, each Regional RRI also has the right to broadcast regional news, such as *Warta Daerah*, *Berita Regional*, *Berita dalam Bahasa Jawa* (RRI Yogyakarta, Surakarta, Semarang), and so forth (*Berita Radio*, 1954-1956).

In its position as government cultural media, RRI commits to collect and broadcast the regional cultures so that it is acknowledged by all Indonesian people. RRI explores all the richness of the Indonesian indigenous culture then introduce them to the community. This is not intended to revive regionalism, but as a part of efforts to shape national culture. Furthermore, regional culture must be broadcasted widely to all Indonesian people, so that a free assimilation process can emerge and formulate a new national culture. Therefore, RRI has to be an active channel to accomplish these efforts (Ministry of Information, 1953, pp. 253-254). The position and role of RRI is significant, until 1955, RRI had 28 stations spread across various regions ("Sambutan," p. 3). In the next period, on the basis of historical, political, sociological, psychological, and geographical factors, RRI as a broadcast radio organization which has a network is grouped into several categories, namely: National/ Central RRI Stations, RRI Nusantara Stations, Regional RRI Stations, RRI Stations Locals, and RRI Relay Stations (Effendy, 1978, p. 67). The National/ Central RRI Station is located in Jakarta as the capital city of the Republic of Indonesia. As the capital city of the country, Jakarta is the centre of political, economic, social, cultural and defence and security activities. In accordance with its position as the National/ Central Station, the broadcast program of RRI Jakarta also relayed by the subordinate radio stations. Some broadcasts were relayed by all broadcast radio stations in Indonesia include news reports, state ceremony reports, and parliamentarians. To strengthen the performance of event production and launching of broadcast program with national and international scope, the National/ Central RRI Station divides programs into five categories, namely *Programa Nasional*, *Programa Khusus*, *Programa Ibu Kota*, *Programa Musik Sepanjang Hari*, and *Programa Siaran Luar Negeri* (Effendy, 1978, p. 68-69).

RRI Nusantara Station is located in the provincial capital as a sub-center for political, economic, social, cultural, as well as defence and security activities. In Indonesia, there are five RRI Nusantara Stations, namely RRI Nusantara I Ujung Pandang, RRI Nusantara II Yogyakarta, RRI Nusantara III Medan, RRI Nusantara IV Banjarmasin, and RRI Nusantara V Jayapura. Each

RRI Nusantara is in charge of designated Regional RRI Stations. RRI Nusantara station is in charge of coordinating broadcast operations executed by regional and local stations within its territory. RRI Nusantara Station organizes event production and launches radio broadcast within the scope of its coordination area, broadcasts aimed at its regional areas through *Programa Nusantara* broadcast, regional, and local (Effendy, 1978, p. 71).

Regional RRI stations are based in provincial capitals or cities / regencies have regional activities in the politics, economy, social, culture, as well as defence and security sectors. For instance, RRI Surakarta and RRI Semarang. RRI Regional Station organizes event production and launches radio broadcast within the scope of provincial areas and or important cultural centre through regional and local programs. Local RRI stations are located in municipalities/ districts that have political, social, and cultural potential. The main task is similar to RRI Regional Station, but the scope is smaller. Many of the programs are relayed from the National/ Central RRI Station, the RRI Nusantara Station, and the Regional RRI Station. Meanwhile, RRI Relay Stations are settled according to the needs in cities or areas where RRI broadcast reception is experiencing obstacles (Effendy, 1978, pp. 71-72). Having had many stations across the country, RRI has the potential to dig in and disseminate the cultural wealth in the regions. Moreover, assimilation process is expected to form a national culture ("Semilan," p. 4).

In line with the current policies, RRI organizes cultural broadcast, following the term coined by Yampolsky (1987, pp. 10-12) are including National Music, Regional Entertainment, and Regional Music and Theater. National Music has a general definition. The term was only intended to facilitate grouping ("Tradisi," p. 3). However, according to Yampolsky, National Music is a term referring to music in performing the identity of Indonesians as Indonesians, across regional and ethnic boundaries, and is not identified with certain regions or groups. In general, the lyrics of National Music are written in Indonesian language. The main varieties of National Music as produced by Lokananta are entertainment, Keroncong, Malay (such as dangdut), Struggle songs, Islamic religious

recitation and songs (usually using Arabic instead of Indonesian), and Worship songs (Yampolsky, 1987, p. 5).

Regional Entertainment is categorized as National Music, a regional language song with a melody composing like National Entertainment. Regional entertainment applying idioms and presenting it with a Western musical ensemble. Occasionally, it is displayed in orchestral form. Regional entertainment includes traditional Malay, Karo, Simalungun, Tapanuli, Minang, South Sumatra, Kalimantan, Sulawesi and Maluku regional music (Yampolsky, 1987, p. 13; Yampolsky, 1995, pp. 706-707).

Meanwhile, Music and Regional Play is music and story arising from regions in Indonesia, for example Central Java, Sunda, East Java, and Bali. Central Javanese music and theater includes *klenengan*, music for weddings, dance accompaniment, *dolanan*, *wayang kulit purwa*, *wayang wong*, *kethoprak*, *dhugelan*, and *langgam Jawa*. Sundanese regional music and theater includes *gamelan*, *gamelan iringan tari*, *degung*, *degung iringan tari*, new musical style, *suling karesmen*, *tembang Sunda*, and *wayang golok*. East Javanese music and theater includes *klenengan*, *ludruk*, and *gerdhing ludruk*. Balinese regional music and theater includes *gong* and *suling* (Yampolsky, 1987, p. 10-12).

In conducting the broadcasts, RRI is supported by Lokananta, which formerly has no recording studio. Therefore, Lokananta used RRI's recording studios which scattered across the regions. Lokananta was founded in 1956 in Surakarta. Its establishment was an idea realization by the Director General of RRI in 1954. The idea of establishing a recording studio was intended to preserve the existence of RRI stations located in the regions. The Lokananta establishment serves two purposes. The first objective is practical, namely to improve the RRI discotheque and reduce the use of foreign exchange. In this case, the establishment of Lokananta is intended to meet the needs of RRI broadcasts. The second objective is more ideal because it relates to a broader goal, namely to increase the production of national LPs which is expected to contribute to the development of Indonesian culture. Thus, the establishment of Lokananta is expected to reduce the influences of

foreign cultures in the context of realizing national culture [Puguh, 2015, pp. 312-313; Puguh, 2018, p. 427].

Some cultural broadcast programs favored by people from their respective cultural areas including *Pilihan Pendengar, Lagu-Lagu Daerah, Kesenian-Kesenian Daerah, Lelucon-Lelucon, Sandiwara Radio, Dhagelan Matarara, Wayang Orang Surakarta, Laang Madura, Randai Minang, Talenpong, Bukit Seguntang, Lagu-Lagu Melayu, Maengket, Kulintang, Kecapi Modern, Angklung Jabar, Pak Kasur, Nyanyian Ibu Sud, Lagu-Lagu Makasar Modern, Gamelan Bali*, and others. Additionally, the awaited programs by Indonesian people was *Pemilihan Bintang Radio* [Radio Star Contest] ("Tradisi," p. 4). The following describes one of the cultural broadcast programs favored by the Javanese community organized by RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta, namely *Sandiwara Daerah*.

#### **The Broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* of RRI Yogyakarta**

Neither the initiator nor the launching date of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast program on RRI Yogyakarta were uncertain. However, some contemporary sources suggest that the program was launched in the 1950s decade. In the *Pedoman Radio* published in 1950 and *Berita Radio* published in 1958 and 1959, there were recorded broadcast programs for the drama (*Pedoman Radio*, No. 2, June 11, 1950; *Berita Radio*, 304 Year XIII, November 23-29, 1958, pp. 3-18) and *Sandiwara Daerah* at RRI Surakarta (*Berita Radio*, No. 306 Year XIII, December 7-29, 1958, pp. 3-18; *Berita Radio*, No 319, XIII, March 8-14, 1959, pp. 3-18). Drama broadcasts use Indonesian and *Sandiwara Daerah* uses the mother language applied in certain regions. Therefore, *Sandiwara Daerah* is delivered in Javanese language. According to RRI centralized policy and the position of RRI Yogyakarta as the Nusantera II Station in charge of the RRI Surakarta Regional Station, it can be ascertained that *Sandiwara Daerah* and Theater events at RRI Station Yogyakarta have existed in the mid-1950 decade. In *Berita Radio* published in 1955, information was obtained that *Sandiwara Radio* (including *Sandiwara Daerah*) is the most popular broadcast

program (*Berita Radio*, September 1955). This fact is also reinforced by a source which stated that the *Sandiwara Daerah* resides on the heart of public, namely RRI Nusantera II Yogyakarta in 1957 along with *Keluarga Yogya* ("Menyingskap album acara top '45-'85", 1985, p. 69). The *Keluarga Yogya* was established in 1954 by B.H. Sumantri, Purbatin Hadi, Slamet Pudjono, and Umar Kayam ("Sedjenak mendjenguk," p. 5). In the 1950s, as stated in *Berita Radio* 1955, the implementation of *Sandiwara Daerah* and Theater broadcasts were supported by *Sandiwara* groups that had collaborated with each RRI station. *Sandiwara* groups broadcast in the radio play sequentially. However, there is no further information that can be used to describe the broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta in the 1950s decade. A better understanding about this program can be obtained from the next reporting period from the 1960s.

The discussion about the broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta in the 1960-1980 decade is inseparable from a figure named Sumardjono. He was born in Yogyakarta on December 2, 1930. He completed his formal education at Sekolah Menengah Dagang in Gowongan Kidul Yogyakarta. Because of his interest and talent in the arts, in 1943-1948 he joined the Sandiwara Fadjar Teroena Association led by Mardi Soetjipto, a soldier with a position of Second Lieutenant from the Kesatuan PPT Kompi I, Section B, Central Java. In 1951-1955 Sumardjono became a staff in the Drama Section at the Arts Section of the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs. His interest and talent in drama had encouraged him to join and assist in the broadcast of the *Keluarga Yogya* led by Umar Kayam on RRI Nusantera II Yogyakarta in 1956 (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 139).

Since 31 August 1959 Sumardjono decided to resign from the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs due to his displacement to RRI Yogyakarta. After Sumardjono's move to RRI Yogyakarta, the founders of the *Keluarga Yogya* conducted on new tasks. Umar Kayam continued his studies in the United States in the early to mid-1960s, B. H. Sumantri to Radio Moscow, and Slamet Pudjono to Sumatra. As a result, the activities of the *Keluarga Yogya* to fill the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast program at RRI

Yogyakarta were threatened by congestion. Since then Sumardjono emerged as the leader of the *Keluarga Yogya* to continue the broadcast of the RRI Yogyakarta Regional Theater Theater ("Sedjenak mendjengak," p. 5). After five years of devotion at RRI Yogyakarta, in 1964 he was appointed as a Head Section of *Siaran Kata*, a position he held until 1979. This appointment was, indeed, inseparable from his ability in the field of drama and *sandiwara*. His career was constantly improving, from 1979 until his retirement in 1986, his last position was the Head of Broadcast Planning. Sumardjono's role in organizing *Sandiwara Daerah* at RRI Yogyakarta is prominent, he is the main writer, director, and actors. In other words, he is the key actor of the event (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 139).

The production process for *Sandiwara Daerah* evoked by the discovery of story ideas, script writing, recording, mixing or montage processes, and broadcasting. The process takes more than 10 times the duration of the event. The discovery of story ideas is attained in two ways, namely: by seeking inspiration from the social life of community and adapting stories deriving from abroad. Thus, the stories featured in the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast are authentic stories by Sumardjono and adapted stories from novels in both English and Dutch. According to Asri Sumardjono (Sumardjono's wife), if the recording process has not acquired a story idea, Sumardjono persuaded his wife to go on a motorbike surrounding the city or villages to enjoy the local atmosphere and environment. During his trip, Sumardjono conducted a dialogue with the people he met. When he got an inspiration, he was immediately returning home to write a script. Occasionally, completing script takes time from noon or evening until late night, or eventually pushed it to the next morning. The manuscript was typed on 19-20 pages of *doerslag* paper and made several copies (because there were no photocopies) with one and a half spaces. The original story of Sumardjono's work tells about feudalism and the author's antipathy toward feudalism ("Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 75; Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 143).

Respectively, for several stories adapted from foreign novels, Sumardjono was inspired to

write a script from his wife, who is in charge of the the Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs and speaks in both Dutch and English. He asked his wife to read the novel and retold it to Sumardjono. Then the story is processed into a *Sandiwara Daerah* story. Many adaptation texts inspired by novels written by Morold Robin and Paul Welman which were adapted to the Indonesian environment. Apart from modifying stories from novels in foreign languages, Sumardjono also adapted novels in Indonesian. One of his works, *Godzil* was inspired by the *Anak Perawan di Sarang Penyaman* by Sutan Takdir Alisyahbana (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 145). According to Sumardjono, in his position as a script writer, for 21 years he has been involved in the implementation of *Sandiwara Daerah* he has produced as many as 780 manuscripts, both original and adaptations (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 139 & 145). From hundreds of stories, there are several stories which are popular and have become a public memory, including *Gumbret*, *Rahmoyo*, *Katri*, *Raden Mas Basuki*, *Perkutut*, and *Godzil* ("Menyingkap Album Acara Top'45-'85", 1985, pp. 69-70; "Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 75). Bondan Nusantara, a mataraman *kethoprak* activist, testified that as a teenager (1960s) he regularly listened to *Sandiwara Daerah*. The most memorable series of *Sandiwara Daerah* is *Godzil*, because it was the first horror skit broadcasted by RRI Yogyakarta (Muryanto, 2013, p. 141).

In regards to the characteristics of the *Sandiwara Daerah* script, various types of information were conveyed as follows. Basically, each manuscript sheet is divided into three parts, particularly: the part numbering, the actor name column, and the part of dialogue sentence. Each manuscript consists of two main elements, namely technical language (play and production instructions) and dialogue sentences that must be read by the actors. In terms of technical language, Sumardjono's works constantly started and finished by writing *ganclan* (Mardianto and Darmanto, 2001, p. 153). In case of writing serial story, the script writing is finished with the same pattern. Within the script, the name of the character started with a capital letter. In Sumardjono's script, characters' dialogues

generally use a mixture of Javanese and Indonesian (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 153 & 157).

After the script is complete, a copy of the script is distributed to the actors. According to Arief Hartoyo, a member of the *Keluarga Yogya* frequently scripts were given to the actors in a few hours before the recording (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 143). The recording did not always run smoothly, sometimes obstacles interrupted the process. The actors have indeed been prepared and roles have been determined. However, sometimes up to the time before the recording, one of the actor was unable to come, even though the recording could not be postponed any longer. In such case, Sumardjono as the director must immediately contact other people to replace the actor ("Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 75).

During Sumardjono's leadership (1964-1983), most of *Sandiwara Daerah* actors in RRI Yogyakarta were permanent employees of RRI Nusantara II Yogyakarta, who came from various parts. They are Habib Bari, Hastin Atas Asih, Arief Hartoyo, Sabikis (the pseudonym of Sumardjono), Subroto, Suyatman, Bagus Giarto, and Muchammad Suhud. In addition, there were players recruited from outside, namely Mimi Notokusumo, Unun Pratiwi, Maria Kadersih (during the time, she was a radio announcer at Retjo Buntung), Subandi (Institute of Teacher Training and Education), and Suharno HP. (Mardianto and Darmanto, 2001, p. 138). Through *Sandiwara Daerah* as a director, Sumardjono also succeeded in launching the *Keluarga Yogya* theater players in the 1960s, such as Hastin Atas Asih, Subroto, Sri Lestari, Sri Purwati, Mimi Notokusumo, Unun Sugianto, and Habib Bari ("Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 75). The supporters of this event, including Sabikis (the pseudonym of Sumardjono), Hastin Atas Asih, Unun Pratiwi, Habib Bari, Arief Handoyo, and Soebroto are very well-known by their fans. Rahutomo and Samudro handled the role of music arrangement and montage ("Menyingkap album acara top '45-'85, 1985, pp. 70-71).

In 1965 the Regional Drama was broadcasted every two weeks. A year later, in 1966 there was a change in broadcast frequency into once a week. This program was broadcast every Sunday night with a duration of 90 minutes after

the broadcast of *Warta Berita* at 21:00 WIB. Since the first launching, *Sandiwara Daerah* has a group named *Keluarga Yogya*. Until the end of the 1990s the name remained attached and always mentioned at the beginning and end of the story (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 137). In 1960s to 1970s, *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta was like an addiction that made the listening community of RRI Yogyakarta addicted. They were not willing to leave this event for even one night. As an illustration, if a regular community meeting held in a certain village on Sunday night to discuss a range of issues in that environment, the time for the meeting was limited which was finished before the commencement of the Javanese radio broadcast. The fondness of society for *Sandiwara Daerah* programs is also reflected in the social realities for society in the upcoming day. On Monday morning both in offices, markets, and other public places as well as anywhere and anyone in small discussions about *Sandiwara Daerah* which were listened the night before ("Sedjenak mendjenguk," p. 5; Ratmana, 1975; "Menyingkap Album Acara Top '45-'85, 1985, p. 70).

Sumardjono's success in organizing the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast received appreciation from the Special Region of Yogyakarta in the form of an Art Award for outstanding artists in 1983. This art prize further encouraged Sumardjono to devote himself to a popular art in Yogyakarta, *Sandiwara Daerah*. Sumardjono's success as a scriptwriter and director has made him extremely busy because various agencies asked him to give lectures on his profession, such as in the upgrading at national RRI, the Ministry of Education and Culture, and other agencies ("Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 76).

In the early 1980s, along with the weakening of Sumardjono's health issues, *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts experienced a decline in productivity. In 1980-1982 *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts were held fortnightly. In connection with the increase in broadcast productivity, in 1983 *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts were held once a week with two scriptwriters, namely Sumardjono and Maria Kadersih (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 141). This fact shows that there is a well-prepared generational transfer process. A year later (1984) Sumardjono's position and role was replaced by Maria Kadersih.



In the world of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta Maria Kadarasih was a senior, because she has been a part of the *Keluarga Yogya* since 1974. In 1970, she was already an announcer on a private radio in Yogyakarta. When she became an announcer she was noticed as having a distinctive voice, so she got an offer to join the RRI Yogyakarta *Sandiwara Daerah*. At that time RRI Yogyakarta needed players, because some of the performers were assigned to study abroad. Then she was asked to join *Sandiwara Daerah* by Sumardjono (Pendopo Kang Tedjo, Maria Kadarasih, TVRI Yogyakarta, 15 February 2019, Part 2). In 1983 she began writing the *Sandiwara Daerah* script. She learned to write stories for Sumardjono for three years. At one point, Sumardjono said that tomorrow the manuscript was produced. The first manuscript is entitled *Yustina Rupa lan Atine* which tells about a blind person who falls in love with a doctor who helped to cure her eyesight. In 1984, she was in charge to organize the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts. In the era of Sumardjono's leadership, formerly, Maria Kadarasih was an actor, since 1984 she has replaced Sumardjono as writer, director and player. Her position as the organizer of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts was more solid, when in 1985 she was awarded the title of the best national *Sandiwara Radio* script writer (Pendopo Kang Tedjo, "Maria Kadarasih", TVRI Yogyakarta, 15 February 2019, Part 3).

From 1984 to 1998, *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts were held once a week. The broadcast duration has changed from 90 minutes to 40 minutes, due to the addition of "Warta Berita" relay for long duration, from Central RRI Jakarta and adjustments to the times. Since the issuance of the Decree of the Minister of Information Number 226 of 1984, each broadcasting radio station is required to relay *Warta Berita* at 11 pm. This obligation has programmatic implications, that for the sake of maintaining a sustainable atmosphere, the program planner, in this case RRI Yogyakarta Broadcast Planning Division, has programmed the *Sandiwara Daerah* to be finished before *Berita Asean* (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 142).

Sumardjono mostly took stories from both foreign and Indonesian novels, whereas Maria Kadarasih does not use stories from others. The whole story is a story of his own creativity. There

are external factors that prevented Maria Kadarasih from adapting a foreign story to broadcast *Sandiwara Daerah*, namely the issuance of the Copyright Law. He realizes that there are legal consequences for adapting story books without paying royalties. In order to avoid any legal consequences when adapting a story, the choice was made to try to produce a story of his own work. However, Maria Kadarasih's creative process in creating stories has no major difference from Sumardjono's. Newspapers, magazines, and books, and social situations are sources of inspiration to her. She is among the writers who can finish writing the script immediately. Writing a script for a broadcast package in 40 minutes (about 14-15 pages) can be completed in few hours. The differences in writing the script by these two figures are in technical language; Sumardjono's works always started and finished by writing *Gamelan*, while Maria Kadarasih's works used *gendhing* term. Apparently, Maria Kadarasih has a better understanding in terminology applied in the Javanese musicals, so she can use a more precise term than Sumardjono, because the term *gamelan* refers to the instrument, while the term *gendhing* refers to the composition in Javanese musicals. When the term is used to refer to an illustration used to support a play scene, the term *gendhing* is more appropriate than *gamelan*. Unlike Sumardjono, who frequently handed over the script of *Sandiwara Daerah* to the players before recording, Maria Kadarasih was able to distribute the script to the players no later than the day before recording. Thus, the players can take preparations, because the script can be read in its entirety before recording, which in turn they know the whole story content and understand the characters of each actors. In this way, it is hoped to be able to produce a high quality of *Sandiwara Daerah* (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, pp. 152-153, 162).

There are differences in writing script by Maria Kadarasih compared to Sumardjono in terms of pattern in writing serial stories. In the script by Maria Kadarasih, the writing of Series II consistently begins with retelling the summary of the Series I story, the writing of Series III begins with a summary of the story of Series II, and so on. Maria Kadarasih also tends to use pure Javanese with the

application of Javanese attitudes (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 158, 155).

During Maria Kadarsih's leadership, some players in *Sandiwara Daerah* have been changed. The players consist of employees of RRI Yogyakarta involving external players. There are employees who become *Sandiwara Daerah* players, namely Maria Kadarsih, Muchammad Suhud, Drs. Ferdinan Margono, Muming Pringgo, Sudaryanto, Hj. Nanik Arifin, and Antonius Darmanto. Meanwhile, the players who come from outside are Esti Prit, Heryanti (both of them are former *Sandiwara Radio Retjo Buntung*), Ery Aditya (Radio Retjo Buntung), Sri Badiarti (*kethoprak* player PS Bayu Group), Retno Intarti (alumnus of the Indonesian Art Institute [ISI] of Yogyakarta). The role of Agus Sutopo and Iriandi as techniques and montage were (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 138). Based on historical realities, both in Sumardjono and Maria Kadarsih's leadership, it is not surprising if Butet Kertaredjasa states that RRI Yogyakarta was a place to grow for artists (Zakaria, 2013, p. 135).

*Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta Program up to 1980s was still an addiction for its fan community. Maria Kadarsih's name as a script writer, director, and performer seems to have succeeded in inheriting the previous generation, Sumardjono. She was able to win the hearts of fans of this *Sandiwara Daerah* (Sumarno, 1985, p. 71). According to Maria Kadarsih, *Sandiwara Daerah* is preferred by the public because the stories are related to everyday life. When compared to the *kethoprak* originating from history and chronicles, the stories presented in the *Sandiwara Daerah* are easier to understand because they are about the daily life of the people of their time. Thus, *Sandiwara Daerah* is more depicting the true incident (Pendopo Kang Tedjo, "Maria Kadarsih", TVRI Yogyakarta, 15 February 2019, Part 3 and 4).

Maria Kadarsih testified that *Sandiwara Daerah* was an entertainment for *gudheg lesehan* sellers in Malioboro Yogyakarta. One night when visiting Malioboro to buy *gudheg* rice, the *Sandiwara Daerah* which was led by Maria Kadarsih received a comment from Mrs. Sastro, a *gudheg* seller "Wah ... sandiwaranya semalam bagus ... kebetulan pembeli agak sepi, saya bisa menikmati seksama ... kapan-kapan bikin cerita horor ta jeng". ["Wow ... the drama last night was

outstanding ... the buyer was rather quiet, I was able to enjoy it thoroughly ... next time, please write a horror story"]. For breadwinners at night, drama of *Sandiwara Daerah* was as companion to stay awake from sleepiness. RRI, which broadcast 24 hours, indeed have a special place in the hearts of its listeners (Kadarsih, 1985, p.115).

*Sandiwara Daerah* favored by the community was also inseparable from its illustrative support. The presentation always begins and ends with *gendhing* as a tune that functions as an event recognition music. In addition, in each transition scene was included an illustration *gendhing* which has a multiple functions, separating the scene, and creating an atmosphere according to the story. *Sandiwara Daerah* also take advantage of sound effects for various functions, including: helping to create an atmosphere; other forms of acting (the sound of footsteps replacing the acting of walking in visual drama), and showing the place (for instance, the sound of waves to describe scenes on the beach) (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 163).

Opening and closing *gendhing* for the performance of the *Sandiwara Daerah* were made by *gamelan* master of Yogyakarta, Ki Tjokrowasito, who later became known as Ki Wasitodipuro. This name is popular in the Javanese musical art world, because its character in the musical field has received recognition from various parties, both from within and outside the country (Tim Pengkajian "Maskarja", 2004). Waridi (2008) named him as one of the supporting pillars for the life of Javanese *karawitan*, because he has been a pioneer in the renewal of Javanese *karawitan* through its *gendhing*. *Gendhing* for illustration of *Sandiwara Daerah* between 1970-1987 also uses Ki Wasitodipuro's work. However, in the 1987-1995 period there was a change because the illustrations also used the work of other RRI Yogyakarta composers, namely Hardjo Rachman and Sutarjo. Since 1996, apart from using *gendhing* by Harjo Rachman and Sutarjo, Murjono's works have also been used. The use of the *gendhing* works compiled by the composers of RRI Yogyakarta was adapted to the demands of the story, so that in one broadcast package used illustrations from several creators. The determination and use of the type of illustration for the *Sandiwara Daerah* is carried out

by the operator doing the montage or mixing (Mardianto & Darmanto, 2001, p. 163).

In the 1990s, there is a major change in the media and entertainment industry. Along with the development of the private television and radio industry, the public is increasingly selective in choosing the media and its programs. People prefer television because it is more attractive. RRI Yogyakarta is not the main source of information and entertainment for the community. As a result, *Sandiwara Daerah* is also increasingly marginalized (Pramesti, 2013, pp. 53-54).

### The Broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* of RRI Surakarta

Similar to the phenomenon occurred in RRI Yogyakarta, both the initiator and launching date of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast on RRI Surakarta were unknown. According to Siti Aminah (born 1951), based on the information, in 1950 *Sandiwara Daerah* was already in place. She added that the drama was performed either in Javanese or Indonesian. ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"). Nonetheless, unfortunately the legacy of broadcast scripts and recordings did not exist, due to limited facilities and infrastructure. *Sandiwara Daerah* recordings were deleted after broadcast, because the memory should be used to record other broadcast materials. This information reflected the truth, because in the *Pedoman Radio* published in 1950 and *Berita Radio* published in 1958 and 1959 there were broadcast programs for the drama (*Pedoman Radio*, No. 2, June 11, 1950; *Berita Radio*, No. 304 Year XIII, November 23-29, 1958, pp. 3-18) and *Sandiwara Daerah* in RRI Surakarta (*Berita Radio*, No. 306 Year XIII, December 7-29, 1958, pp. 3-18; *Berita Radio*, No. 319 Year XIII, March 8-14, 1959, pp. 3-18). The Theater Program is a drama broadcasted in Indonesian language, meanwhile *Sandiwara Daerah* in Javanese language.

The implementation of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts aims to preserve Javanese culture, notably Javanese. The drama is chosen as one of the media to preserve the Javanese language, because the stories in the drama is related to everyday life, therefore it is easier for the public to digest and accept than *wayang wong*. *Wayang*

*wong* performances are relatively difficult to digest and accept, because they have to appreciate more deeply both language and songs ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"). Because the drama is in accordance with everyday life and uses Javanese as it is used by the community, the story is easy to understand. It is hoped that the use of Javanese will help to preserve the Javanese language, because through *Sandiwara Daerah*, the Javanese are accustomed to hearing Javanese conversations.

In the period before 1979, *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts were managed by Rudi Sunarto and W.S. Nardi. There was no written information about how the broadcast was organized and the public's response to the Javanese-language theatrical program at that time. A reliable information is about the performance of *Sandiwara Daerah* which supported by cultural institutions in Surakarta ("Sumardjono lan sandiwara", 1979). This means that actors under the cultural institutions in Surakarta take turns filling in the broadcast programs organized by RRI Surakarta. For example, in 1963 the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast was filled by Mulato Satiro (*Mingguan Radio Republik Indonesia*, Year 2 No. 50, May 12, 1963, pp. 29-42). However, according to Siti Aminah, who was a loyal listener of *Sandiwara Daerah* in the 1960s, even though RRI Surakarta has broadcasted *Sandiwara Daerah*, she preferred to listen to *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasted in RRI Yogyakarta by Sumardjono ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"; "Bu Lusita Siti Aminah", 1980, p. 19).

Among the artists of *Sandiwara Daerah*, Sumardjono was an influential person who has raised the *Sandiwara Daerah* to be a nationally recognized event. Therefore, he was known as Mr *Sandiwara Jawa* RRI Nusantara II Yogyakarta (Darmoatmodjo, 1972, p. 8). Based on Siti Aminah's testimony, it can be said that in the case of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts, it appears that the *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta broadcasts are more famous and better than RRI Surakarta.

Being left behind in the performance of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts has encouraged the leadership of RRI Surakarta to improve the quality of their *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts. It is manifested by organizing a drama training on 23-

25 May 1979, the event was attended by cultural institutions who filled in *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts on RRI Surakarta. A prominent writer, Sumardjono, had the opportunity to share his knowledge about the writing process, directing, acting, and others ("Sumardjono lan sandiwara", 1979). In the case of writing the *Sandiwara Daerah* script, Sumardjono always says "write with the correct guidelines, particularly starting from the following parts including exposure, process, climax, and resolution" ("Profil Soemardjono", 1985, p. 76). By this training, it is hoped that the *Sandiwara Daerah* held by RRI Surakarta will have a certain quality, and there will be enthusiasm for pursuing and developing this art. On the last day of the training, there was a drama performance played by participants. Sumardjono chosen three impressive scripts written by Yusmiar, Siti Aminah, and Ahmad DS. At the time, the idea emerged in order to form a drama group in Surakarta that could be a prime focus in *Sandiwara Radio* ("Sumardjono lan sandiwara", 1979).

Siti Aminah's work received the highest score. Its production also received a highest rank. This is not so surprising, since 1970 she has been managing *Sandiwara Radio* in Radio Konservatori Surakarta. For her achievement, she was offered by the Head of RRI Surakarta, Muhammad Hasyim Beni to work at RRI Surakarta, and since September 1, 1979, she has worked at RRI Surakarta as a staff of Music Broadcasting and Assistant for *Siaran Kata* and became a person in-charge in organizing *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts ("Bu Lusita Siti Aminah", 1980, p. 19). Since then, she has been appointed as script writer and director for *Sandiwara Daerah* at RRI Surakarta until the early 2000s. She quitted from the broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* on RRI Surakarta in 2005. ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"). Thus, the discourse on *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts on RRI Surakarta is inseparable from the figure of Siti Aminah.

Siti Aminah managed the broadcast of *Sandiwara Daerah* at RRI Surakarta passionately. In accordance with the policy outlined by RRI, the *Sandiwara Radio* must be able to convey the high moral values of society at a certain time; instill confidence in society that truth, honesty and nobility; overcome evil; as well as minimize the symptoms which endanger society or obstruct the

progress of the nation (Effendy, 1978, p. 99). She wrote a script which was broadcasted regularly once a week. She got inspiration from books, novels, films, and true stories. In fact, she also needed to conduct interviews with various parties and make observations to compile a drama script. For instance: court scenes, she did consultation with the judge; health problems, she conducted a conversation with a doctor; on criminal matters, she also interviewed the police and sometimes included guest players from the police ("Transcript of Interview with Siti Aminah").

The themes of the story were diverse, such as: family, crime (the most common theme), mystery and horror. In addition, she also brought up a story about Javanese culture, entitled *Sri Panggung* and Javanese arts mission overseas, both of which were inspired by the true life of the Surakarta Javanese artist. *Sri Panggung* tells about the story of an artist's struggle who gets opposition from her parents because she dislike art. She continues to strive to realize what her dreams of preserving culture, so that she becomes a famous person. The story about the Javanese arts mission overseas tells of a fraud committed by the intermediary who organized the art mission. The mission of writing stories about the life of Javanese artists is to place Javanese art in its proper position. She does not want to be denigrated by Javanese arts ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah").

Similar to Sumardjono, her teacher in the field of *Sandiwara Daerah*, she uses Javanese language which is unbounded by literary language in composing scripts. The draft mostly uses Javanese as a daily language of communication. Frequently, there are some foreign or non-Javanese terms that is unnecessary to be translated into Javanese. This choice is based on the consideration that the work would be more communicative ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah").

The actors were recruited from various parts of RRI Surakarta. She selected suitable actors by doing a voice test to find actors whose voices can reflect the characters that will be performed in a drama (Sunyoto, 1978, p. 172). The selected players did not have a theater education background. Exercises were performed at the time of recording. Because the actors were not professional, as the director, she did not only develop the behavior, but also guide the actors to

do voice "acting" according to the characters. It was important to build the listeners' imagination. Her success in fostering these players made them famous. The players known to the public were Slamet Supardi, Jimi Sandi, Atin Warokatin, and Widoyo Sumarto ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"). Listeners become fond of and addicted to *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta, because it is supported by reliable actors.

Sound effect is an element that cannot be neglected in the performance of *Sandiwara Radio*, because it gave real suggestions and create a certain atmosphere (Sunyoto, 1978, p. 45). This element also inextricably linked to Siti Aminah's attention. Sound effects as supporting scenes in *Sandiwara Daerah* are recorded in accordance with the a required atmosphere, and some are made immediately during the recording. For example, *Javanese gending* and the sound of gurgling water was recorded; while the sound effect to support the fire scene was made at the time of recording ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah").

RRI Surakarta has broadcasted thousands of episodes of the script or approximately 120 titles of Siti Aminah's *Sandiwara Daerah* over a period of 20 years (1979-2001). The broadcast program was held once a week and lasted an hour and a half. Each stories require between seven and ten broadcasts ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah").

The decade 1980 to 1990 was a period of magnificence of *Sandiwara Daerah*. *Sandiwara Daerah* attracted attention and favor of the community (Muhadi, 1990, p. 32). Regional and Indonesian theater enthusiasts are different. Both radio drama have their own fan segments. Fans of the *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta, are Javanese people in rural areas and far from entertainment. This is reflected in the testimony of Sukadi Sonokaryo from Giriwoyo Wonogiri.

In the 70s to early 80s there were still few people in rural areas who owned TV, so they tended to prioritize radio as a means of entertainment. Entertainment that really hits at night is regional arts, plays etc. Our family was very happy and often listened to *Sandiwara Radio* [radio plays] from the RRI station in Surakarta, which were broadcast every Thursday - if I am not mistaken - around 10 pm. Routinely was performed by Siti Aminah

Subanto. Her works are very varied on story themes from stories of love, loyalty, affair, struggle for inheritance, struggle for power, ghosts, war, and others ("RRI Surakarta Javanese Language Radio Theater", <http://sukadincindiragroup.blogspot.com/2009/02/sandiwara-radio-bahasa-jawa-ri.html> (accessed on March 10, 2011)).

Many people in urban areas become a huge fan of *Sandiwara Daerah*. It was based on information and letters from listeners to RRI Surakarta. Listeners of *Sandiwara Daerah* are not only general public, but also campus community. Several students from Faculty of Letters and Fine Arts, Universitas Sebelas Maret, Surakarta (UNS) and the Faculty of Letters, Universitas Gadjah Mada (UGM) are interested in bringing up Siti Aminah's story of *Sandiwara Daerah* for their thesis topic. In fact, lecturers who became fans of the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast, then assigned their students to research it ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah").

*Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta experienced a heightened interest in the period 1979-2001 under the guidance of Siti Aminah. Listeners and fans are eagerly awaiting for the event. As evidence, during the *Jumpa Penggemar* [fan meeting] event in Sragen in the 1990s, there were many *Sandiwara Daerah* listeners gathered from the area around Sragen. One of the *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcast fans from Salatiga took the time to attend the meeting. They were only eager to see the players. Another fan told me that she was reluctant to leave the house for fear of missing the drama series ("Interview Transcript with Siti Aminah"). *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasted every Wednesday at 21.30 (after the Javanese news broadcast) is an event that is always eagerly awaited by listeners and fans.

Based on these facts, it can be concluded that *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Surakarta broadcast is able to compete the popularity of *Sandiwara Daerah* RRI Yogyakarta broadcast. However, in 1990 *Sandiwara Daerah* (both Indonesian and Javanese language), were produced by RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta, experienced a decline in popularity with the presence of Indonesian-language radio plays broadcasted by private radios, such as *Tutur*

*Titular and Misteri Gandrung Arung* ("Sandiwara RRI kalah," p. 36).

### Conclusion

Based on the above discussion, it can be concluded that RRI was established with the aim of supporting government programs. Hence, since its establishment, RRI become a political and cultural medium of government. In its position as a government cultural media, RRI has responsible to make efforts in collecting and broadcasting regional culture so that it is known by all Indonesian people. These efforts are aimed, among others, at preserving regional culture. The implementation of *Sandiwara Daerah* broadcasts at RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta is a manifestation of RRI as a government cultural medium that has the duty to explore regional culture in the effort to preserve the Javanese language.

As stated by Indonesian cultural figures at the beginning of independence, Javanese language as an element of Indonesian culture could be marginalized along with the designation of Indonesian as the National Language. Thus, efforts are necessary to preserve it. RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta as government agencies exclusively responsible to preserve the Javanese language in a different way from formal educational institutions that make Javanese as a subject in schools. RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta make this preservation effort by utilizing other cultural elements, namely art by packaging it in a Javanese drama known as *Sandiwara Daerah* which is broadcast regularly by the two RRI stations. This option was taken considering that RRI also has a function as a medium for community entertainment.

According to the author, the efforts of RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta until 1990 can be considered to be fruitful, because the *Sandiwara Daerah* show is favored by some Javanese people who support the Javanese culture, especially Javanese language. In addition, Javanese people become much more appreciated to the Javanese language. In the period after 1990, that efforts became ineffective because RRI's audience had decreased in line with the development of the massive media and entertainment industry, such as the private television and radio industry which presented and offered more attractive programs.

RRI Yogyakarta and Surakarta are not the main sources of information and entertainment for the community. When the prestige of RRI as a cultural medium that carries responsibility in preserving culture in danger of extinction, it is necessary to conduct other smart and effective ways to preserve the Javanese language, which is currently decreasing in number of speakers and at one time is predicted to face extinction.

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