

**PUTRI NIBUNG IN SARANG LANUN**  
*Putri Nibung di Sarang Lanun*

Property of the State  
Not for Commercial Use

**Language Development and Cultivation Agency**  
**Ministry of Education and Culture**  
**Republic of Indonesia**  
**2018**

## **PUTRI NIBUNG IN SARANG LANUN**

Translated from  
*Putri Nibung di Sarang Lanun*  
written by Sarman  
published by  
Language Development and Cultivation Agency  
Ministry of Education and Culture  
in 2016

This translation has been published as the result of the translation program organized  
by The Center for Language Strategy and Diplomacy Development,  
Language Development and Cultivation Agency, Ministry of Education and Culture  
in 2018

Advisory Board	Dadang Sunendar Emi Emilia
Project Supervisor	Dony Setiawan
Translator	Supriyono
Reviewer	Aditya Nugraha
Editor-in-chief	Theya Wulan Primasari
Editorial team	Andi Maytendri M., Ayu Dwi N., Didiek Hardadi, Ferry Yun, Hardina Artating, Herfin A., Lale Li Datil, Larasati, Meili Sanny S., Putriasari, R. Bambang Eko, Rizky Akbar, Roslia, Saprudin Padlil, Syukron Ramadloni, Toni Gunawan, Yolanda

All rights reserved.  
Copyrights of the original book and the translation belong to  
Language Development and Cultivation Agency,  
Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia.

Language Development and Cultivation Agency  
Ministry of Education and Culture, Republic of Indonesia  
Jalan Daksinapati Barat IV, Ramangun, Jakarta  
Telepon (021) 4706287, 4706288, 4896558, 4894546  
Pos-el: badan.bahasa@kemdikbud.go.id  
[www.badanbahasa.kemdikbud.go.id](http://www.badanbahasa.kemdikbud.go.id)

## PRINCESS NIBUNG IN SARANG LANUN

### I.

A very diligent young man lived in a thick and eerie forest in the region of Bangka. Every day, he caught fish in the Kepoh River using the fishing rods or scoops. He did that to meet his daily ends. In addition to catching the fish, he also put traps to catch the deer, rabbits, and birds.

He did such all activities every day by himself since he had been an orphan since he was only a child. His mother passed away when she gave birth to him. His father passed away when his mother was pregnant with him. Since then, he lived alone. Although he lived alone, he had never been lonely since Keling, a black dog, always accompanied him faithfully wherever he was going.

One day, Bujang Limpu was sitting on the stairs of his hut. He looked very upset although at that time the light of the moon and the stars was clearly seen in the sky. He was gloomy and lonely. While looking at the moon and stars far away at the sky, Bujang Limpu's heart was aching.

"Had my father and mother been still alive, my life would have been this lonely and isolated."

The night went on and quietness appeared. Bujang Limpu had not moved from the place where he had sat for some time. Meanwhile, Keling had been sleeping and snoring. However, both of his ears occasionally moved as if they responded to a particular sound.

Since that night, Bujang Limpu had always been upset. He kept thinking of finding the way out of the quiet forest. He knew that the forest was surrounded by an extensive extent of sea. Although he was good at swimming, it would have been impossible for him to swim across the sea.

"This sea is too large. It will be impossible for me to swim across it," said Bujang Limpu.

Bujang Limpu had been spending nearly a week and sitting idly doing nothing but daydreaming. He had visited some places for musing. He gazed thoughtfully at the stairs, on a bed, under the tree, beside the river, or even at the beach.

One day, when he was sitting dreamingly under a thick-leafed and shady tree, Bujang Limpu fell asleep. In his sleep, he was dreaming that a beautiful woman came to him. The woman appeared as an excellently groomed fairy princess.

"Wake up handsome boy!" the Princess called.

"Who are you, charming and lovely princess?" Bujang Limpu

inquired.

"It doesn't matter who I am. Now wake up and find a nibong tree," said the Princess.

"But, what for...?"

Before Bujang Limpu completed his question, the lovely woman he met in his dream had disappeared. Soon, Bujang Limpu woke up of his dream.

"I was only dreaming then," said Bujang Limpu while rubbing his eyes and looking around which turned into an extreme darkness. Bujang Limpu got up and immediately left the place towards his hut.

Bujang Limpu kept trying to memorize and interpret the implicit message of his daydream. He was too anxious to get back to sleep. He kept moving his body around, yet he remained awake.

In an attempt to satisfy his curiosity, Bujang Limpu decided to seek the nibong tree described by the mysterious woman in his daydream.

"Tomorrow I'll find the nibong tree required by the lovely lady," said Bujang Limpu while folding his hands and put them beneath his head as a pillow.

When he was determined of what he would do the next day, he

finally fell asleep.

## II.

The next day, in the early morning when no forest inhabitants were awake of their night dreams, Bujang Limpu immediately headed his steps towards the inner side of the forest to find the nibong tree. He put an axe and a machete around his waist.

Near the bottom of his hut stairs, Bujang Limpu found Keling sleeping soundly. Soon he poked Keling, his beloved dog to wake it up. The dog stretched the body lazily indicating that it was still sleepy. However, the dog felt obliged to obey the master.

"Come on, Keling! We'll have to find the nibong tree," Bujang Limpu asked the dog while immediately leaving the hut. The dog followed.

When he arrived at the middle of the forest, Bujang Limpu got confused.

"Which tree should I cut down? There are many trees in this forest. I have no idea which nibong tree I shall cut down."

He kept wondering which nibong tree he had to cut down. Unexpectedly, it was already midday and the sun was the searing light.

His stomach growled and he had no food supply at all.

Consequently, he had nothing to eat for lunch.

Bujang Limpu dragged his feet and walked recklessly due to his unbearable hunger and thirst. Meanwhile, Keling was not there and he had no idea where the dog was. He kept walking into the forest. Finally, he arrived at a place he never visited. He saw a slum and small nearly-damaged hut

"Excuse me! Excuse me! Excuse me! Anybody home?"

"Who's that?" a voice in the hut responded.

A very old woman came out of the hut and stood behind the door observing the young man standing in front of him. She was surprised and happy at once. So far, she thought that she lived alone in the middle of the isolated and eerie forest. She never thought that somebody would dare enough to step in this forest.

"Oh, here you are, young man. Who are you and why are you coming to this forest?" the old woman asked inquisitively.

"I'm sorry for annoying you, old woman. I am Bujang Limpu. I get lost in this forest," Bujang Limpu introduced himself.

"Take a seat and wait for a moment. Let me get you some water. You look so exhausted, Son," said the old woman who then went into the hut.

"Please be informed, Son, this forest is surrounded by a magic

fence. Only the people with a noble heart can get into the fence. You are a good man, surely" the old woman said and offered a drink in a coconut-shell bowl.

Bujang Limpu received the water and drank up without expecting another offer. The fresh water flowed along his throat and quenched the whole thirst.

"I have been living in this forest for nearly twenty-seven years and so far nobody could successfully infiltrate the magical fence that I have established."

"But, grandma, why have you put the magical fence around this hut? What are afraid of?" Bujang Limpu asked multiple questions to the old woman.

"Jang, before I live in this place, a long time ago, I had lived in a prosperous residential area. We lived in good prosperity, security, and welfare. We had abundant supply of food.

Unfortunately, those advantages had attracted evil pirates to plunder and pillage our village. The previously secure and peaceful village had turned into a horror when a group of evil pirates attacked us. I could successfully escape, but other villagers turned victims.

My family members were murdered. I lived alone here as you are seeing now. Nevertheless, that is okay. It's only a history."



"I see. Now I understand that you made the magical fence to protect you from the attack of the evil pirates, didn't you?"

"Yes, you are right," the old woman replied but then temporarily said nothing. "You may call me Nek Usang. You have not told me who you are and where you come from, Jang?"

In response, Bujang Limpu told about identity and origin. He also introduced Keling, his beloved dog. When he called the name of Keling, he realized that his beloved dog was not there around him. It seemed that his severe hunger and thirst had made him ignore the dog, Keling. Luckily, his beloved dog appeared immediately. Bujang Limpu forgot telling Nek Usang about his dream about meeting a lovely charming woman who asked him to find the nibong tree to Nek Usang.

Since then, Bujang Limpu frequently visited Nek Usang just to ask for some water or share the captured animal or fish with her. When he was lucky to get a large animal such as a deer, he would happily share it with Nek Usang.

### **III.**

It was such a searing day although the rain just stopped and the drizzle went on falling.

Bujang Limpu walked to Nek Usang's hut. He held a male deer that he successfully captured. It was such a lucky day for her.

"Grandma! Grandma! Grandma! just look at what I am carrying."

Bujang Limpu called out Nek Usang while putting the captured deer near the staircases of the hut.

"Oh, it's you, Jang. What are you carrying?" Nek Usang asked when she appeared from the door of the hut.

Bujang Limpu had not even shown the captured deer to Nek Usang, when Keling barked and yelped behind the bushes.

Getting worried about the safety of Keling, Bujang Limpu immediately run to the place where the sound came from. Although Keling had been accustomed to be in the forest, the yelp indicated something unusual. Moreover, he barked in the day. Usually, the dog barked only in response to the presence of such forest's spiritual guards as ghost, genie, Satan, or the mythical spiritual figure locally named genderuwo.

Not very far away from Nek Usang's hut, Keling kept yelping under a stand of a big and tall tree. The tall tree stood up towards the sky.

If he could climb up to the top, Bujang Limpu would have seen a very beautiful view.

He would see a large extent of the blue sea and the green forest. Unfortunately, the tree had sharp nail-like thorns all over the trunk. Therefore, it was not easy for him to reach the treetop.

"Keling! What are you doing here? Come on, let's go to Nek Usang's hut," Bujang Keling called out.

However, the dog kept barking and ignored the call out of the master. Keling consistently walked around the tree as if it was facing up an enemy. The bark was even so loud and sharp that Nek Usang grew curious and went to the place.

"Jang, what's going on with Keling? Why does it show such a peculiar behaviour?" Nek Usang asked when she had arrived near the large tall tree where Keling kept on yelping as if it was seeing a ghost.

"I don't know Grandma. It kept yelping and barking while it moved around the tree," Bujang Limpu explained.

Nek Usang walked slowly towards the large and tall tree. With her black wooden walking stick, she repeatedly hit the tree. She found that there was nothing strange about the tree. However, she wondered why Keling kept yelping and barking. It refused to stay cool and calm. Quietly, Nek Usang wondered, "There must be something inside this tree. To make it sure, this tree has to be cut down."

"Jang, cut the tree down!" Nek Usang instructed Bujang Limpu to cut down the tree. In response to the request, Bujang Limpu immediately walked closer to the tree.

He took out the axe from his waist and swung it forcefully out to the tree bark. Bujang Limpu was very sure that he would successfully cut the tree down in easily. Unexpectedly, the sharp axe had failed to cut even just the bark of the tree trunk.

Even worse, the axe blade broke into two pieces. The tree persistently stood like a steel trunk.

Bujang Limpu took five steps backward away from the tree.

He was wondering why his sharp axe blade had failed to hurt the bark of the tree trunk. So far, the axe had never failed cutting down trees.

They were looking at each other in a great wonder and disbelief. How was it possible that the sharp axe had failed to cut down the seemingly normal and usual tree trunk?

Nek Usang left the tree and Bujang Limpu followed.

Only Keling was still sitting below the tree while protruding his tongue indicating that it was extremely tired.

At the hut, Nek Usang was sitting face to face with Bujang Limpu. After disposing of the chewed betel vine leaves, she went on the conversation.

"Jang, I am sure that the tree is an extraordinary nibong tree."

Hearing the name of nibong, Bujang Limpu was startled. Suddenly he remembered the beautiful and charming woman who requested him to find a nibong trunk.

"Wait a minute, Grandma. You said that it was a nibong tree, didn't you?" Bujang Limpu asked to confirm what he had heard.

"You are right, Jang. The tree is the nibong. However, this nibong tree is an extraordinary one. The tree grows and stands alone, while usually, other nibong trees grow in groups, like the bamboos," explained Nek Usang.

"Grandma, I have been searching such a nibong tree throughout the forest. It is unexpected that the nibong tree is found in this area," said Bujang Limpu. Then, he told her about his dream.

After hearing such a confession from Bujang Limpu, Nek Usang was sure that the nibong tree was an extraordinary tree. Therefore, she decided to perform a meditation under the nibong tree. Before the night came over, Nek Usang already sat cross-legged quietly under the nibong tree.

Meanwhile, Bujang Limpu and Keling waited at the hut of Nek Usang. Until midnight, when the forest turned darker and quieter, Nek Usang was still at her position. Suddenly, the wind blew powerfully and splashed the cheeks of Nek Using. During that moment, she saw a figure of a white-dressed woman. At a glance, the woman smiled at Nek Usang but soon disappeared into the

night fog. Nek Usang immediately ended her mediation. She could precisely memorize what she had just experienced. She got up immediately and went home.

#### IV.

After experiencing such an incidence, Nek Usang decided to perform the neratap ritual to identify what really was in the trunk of the nibong tree. When everything had been prepared, Nek Usang and Bujang Limpu jointly performed the neratap ritual by casting the magical spell near the nibong tree. Umang-umang si kumbang tenuk. Kumbang raje bedakek, raje bedepuk. Timang si dare, timang sedade. Buyut tujuh rupa, si anakanay tujuh beruang serupa-rupa antu selibar dade.

Ooooo, mawang beleh muka, bueh kelumbei pucok bonglay perembeh cucek adam. Jauh-jauh. Pindeh ke gunung mares!

After finishing the neratap procession, Nek Usang requested Bujang Limpu to immediately cut down the nibong tree. With a decisive confidence and spirit, Bujang Limpu swung the axe blade to the nibong tree. It was proven then, that slowly but surely, he kept swinging the axe onto the tree until finally, the nibong tree fell down.

"Crack, bump!" The nibong tree fell down onto the bushes on the ground. Not wasting any energy and time, Bujang Limpu immediately cut the nibong tree into a number of pieces. With

such a long size, the nibong tree was cut into many pieces. When he cut the final edge of the trunk, precisely at the lowest edge of the trunk of the nibong tree, he heard a baby crying.

He was so curious that finally, Bujang Limpu split the lowest edge of the nibong trunk carefully.

That's it. When Bujang Limpu successfully split the edge of the nibong tree and intended to take out the innermost part, he saw something like a baby. It was very small and looked like a doll. He brought the baby of the nibong tree and submitted her to Nek Usang.

Receiving the baby doll taken out of the nibong tree, Nek Usang brought her up like a real baby. She bathed her every morning and evening. In the day, Nek Usang always put it in the cradle and sang a lullaby for the doll. While swinging the baby doll, she sang a song.

Cai-Cai Udei Bedare Kaki Pantai, Nek Unai Becerai Kelimpai  
Kandis

Cai-cai udei nek inai bicare jenggut tupai, puyo kuntol gelimbis  
kandis

Cai-cai udei nek inak berdiri jenggut tupai, tabo lingging nangkak  
hulong pisang masak telabo kandis

Nek Usang did it every day. She had not realized that the nibong

tree doll that she swung every day had turned into a charming and enchanting girl. When Nek Usang was falling asleep due to the fatigue and tiredness, the girl transforming from the nibong core prepared various kinds of food. Besides, she also tidied up the hut of Nek Usang and made it well arranged and organized.

When Nek Usang woke up from her sleep, she was startled and wondered to find the meals had been served at the old and decrepit bamboo bed. Initially, she thought that Bujang Limpu had prepared the meals.

Nevertheless, since it occurred every day, she became curious.

One day, Bujang Limpu came to Nek Usang's hut quietly. He intentionally wanted to surprise Nek Usang. While tiptoeing, he approached the hut. When he softly pushed the door, she heard the sound of someone cooking something. He curiously approached the origin of the sound by peeping through the fissure of the bamboo-woven booth.

Bujang Limpu rubbed both of her eyes with his right hand. He tapped his forehead and he grinned in pain.

"I am not dreaming. This is so real," Bujang Limpu confirmed. To keep the girl in Nek Usang's hut from recognizing his presence, slowly he opened the hut door and walked slowly on his tiptoes towards the girl



"Uh.. huh..." Bujang Limpu coughed behind the girl. All of a sudden, the girl got extremely startled. Then she realized another person had recognized her presence. The girl turned around and wished to leave the booth. Nevertheless, Bujang Limpu stood on her way.

"Wait, Lady. Who are you and where do you come from?" Bujang Limpu pestered while attempting to grab the hand of the girl to keep her from leaving.

"I...I...I...", the girl was very nervous and attempted to cover her shamed reddish face.

The girl took an effort to hide her face behind her thick wavy black hair. Nevertheless, Bujang Limpu could still identify the face of the girl and was sure that he had ever met the girl someday.

"Lady, I think we have ever met. However, I'm not sure when and where? I am not sure myself."

"Yes, indeed we have ever met. Precisely we have met in your dream," the girl replied in a short answer.

Their conversation halted when Nek Usang suddenly appeared in front of them. It seemed that she had had a sleep interruption upon hearing the noise in her kitchen.

"Jang, it's you then. Who is this beautiful girl? Where is my

nibong's doll? Have you removed it from the cradle?" Nek Usang asked continuously without giving any opportunity for Bujang Limpu to answer her questions.

When Bujang Limpu was about to reply, the beautiful girl took the chance to reply.

"We are sorry, Grandma. Because of our noise, you have to have an afternoon nap interruption. You don't need to look for the nibong doll any longer. I am the nibong doll."

"So, was it you who had prepared the meals and arranged the hut for me?" Nek Usang interrogated.

The beautiful girl simply nodded and smiled. Since then, Nek Usang had an additional family member. Nek Usang treated the girl as her own granddaughter and named the beautiful girl Princess Nibong.

At the same time, Bujang Limpu was equally happy. He visited Nek Usang more frequently. Nek Usang, on the other hand, warmly welcomed his presence.

During the break time after the whole work of developing a ship, Bujang Limpu always made his time to visit Nek Usang. The nibong log that he had cut down with Nek Usang was currently assembled into a very large ship. He made the ship at the side of Sungai Kepoh.

## V.

Nek Usang realized that Bujang Limpu and Princess Nibong had a closer and more intimate relationship. She knew that they both were in love and were attracted to each other. She knew that such a feeling was normal since Bujang Limpu had a charming appearance and Princess Nibong was enchanting. Nek Usang did realize such a romantic relationship. In addition, there was none else but Nek Usang and Princess Nibong in the forest. Therefore, she decided to marry them off.

Bujang Limpu and Princess Nibong responded happily to Nek Usang's plan. However, in spite of the fact that they were very happy with Nek Usang's plan, they agreed that they would get married only when the ship had been completely assembled by Bujang Limpu.

Since then, Bujang Limpu worked more diligently and enthusiastically to accomplish the development of the large ship. Early in the morning, he already left for the riverside of Sungai Kepoh to develop the ship. He stopped working in the evening and returned to his hut. Meanwhile, everyday Princess Nibong delivered foods and beverages to Bujang Limpu.

Gradually, Bujang Limpu's large ship was almost completely developed. It had a large main sail, which was prepared to cross the large extent of blue sea. Bujang Limpu was very satisfied and

cherished with the output of his hard work. His dream of sailing across the sea would come true immediately. He would bring Princess Nibong with him to take part in the sailing journey. He also intended to bring Nek Usang along with them. He would tell his intention to them when he had married Princess Nibong.

It was such a clear and bright day. The sky looked blue without any spot of black clouds.

Only white clouds were found and they just beautified the blue sky. Bujang Limpu walked happily to the riverside of Sungai Kepoh. He kept on singing. Sometimes he whistled while Keling loyally following the steps of the master.

"This will be the final day for me to develop the ship. Tonight I will let Nibong and Nek Usang know about this. I will dedicate this large ship to Nibong," Bujang Limpu decisively said when he arrived at the riverside of Sungai Kepoh. He did the final checking of his ship to make sure that it has already been strong enough.

At the mid-day, the large ship had been fully accomplished. It had been ready for the journey across the sea. While expecting for Princess Nibong, Bujang Limpu leaned his back against the wall of his ship. He was very hungry. Usually, Princess Nibong had arrived to deliver foods and drinks for him.

Since Princess Nibong had not arrived yet, Bujang Limpu decided

to fetch her. He went to Nek Usang's hut. At that place, during the lunchtime, he would let them know about his intention to marry his adorable girl.

. Yet, upon his arrival to Nek Usang's hut, he did not meet Princess Nibong there. According to Nek Usang, Princess Nibong had left for the river to send the food to him.

"Jang, Nibong had left since some time ago. I thought she was with you," Nek Usang said.

"No, Grandma. I have expected Nibong for a long time, but she had not appeared at all. I was so chronically starved to such an extent that I would get fainted," Bujang Limpu said in an apparent upset.

Outside the hut, Keling barked loudly. Bujang Limpu was very familiar with the voice. The loud bark of Keling indicated that there was a threatening danger around them.

The danger may result from the presence of wild animals or other unexpected strange creatures that it never saw previously. He stepped out of the hut immediately to make sure what was going on outside the hut.

The voice of Keling turned weaker and faded away from the hut. He immediately had run after Keling to the source of the voice. He saw that the whole way he passed was such a mess. It looked

like a way in which many people just passed by. The grasses and bushes that were freshly upright standing in the morning had then fallen down to the ground and all withered. At the other side, Bujang Limpu found the food and beverage containers that he usually used. At the tree twigs, he saw a torn piece of yellow cloth. He recognized it as the cloth that his lover, Nibong, was fond of wearing the yellow shawl.

Bujang Limpu run over the way while carrying the torn piece of the yellow shawl in his hand.

"Niiibuung!" he called out the name of his lover constantly. Beyond his awareness, he run towards the riverside of Sungai Kepoh where he put his large ship. Yet, he got shocked. The ship was not there any longer.

"Who the hell has stolen my large ship?"

He still heard the voice of Keling fading away at the distant place. Soon he run after Keling to the source of the voice far away at the edge of the river. Bujang Limpu was sure that some people had kidnapped Nibong, his lover, and had stolen his ship.

"I decisively would take Nibong and the ship back for me," claimed Bujang Limpu with his both fists clenched. He was so furious and upset. He decided to run after the kidnapers. However, Nek Usang kept him from leaving.

"Don't go now, Jang! The kidnappers of Nibong are extraordinarily powerful men. If you run after them now, it would mean that you take a suicide in vain."

"But, Grandma. If I don't run after him now, they would go farther. Then where would I have to find them?" Bujang Limpu argued.

"Jang, to defeat an enemy, we have to identify who they are. You should not recklessly take an action. Keep your mind clear and your heart calm.

Equally important, we will have to arrange a strategy to regain Nibong from the hoodlums," Nek Usang said attempting to assure Bujang Limpu.

In the end, Bujang Limpu agreed with Nek Usang's advice.

They returned to the hut to arrange a strategy and plan to release Nibong from the kidnappers. He had prepared all tools and equipment.

The next day, early in the morning Bujang Limpu left for reclaiming his lover. Before Bujang Limpu left, Nek Usang gave an advice to Bujang Limpu.

"Jang, keep my advice in your mind. When you arrived at their

hideout, don't ever drink the water taken from their spring.

Equally important, when you stood against the kidnappers, don't ever look at their eyes. Look only at the extent of their toes and you will be able to make them paralyzed if you keep away from the abstinence," said Nek Usang extensively.

"All right, Grandma. I'll keep in mind what you have said. Now, I'm leaving to take a rest since tomorrow morning I will leave for the Pirates early in the morning." Bujang Limpu took a leave and went to bed to take a rest.

## **VI.**

The next day, early in the morning Bujang Limpu already woke up and left for finding Nibong, his lover. Using a nibong stick, he walked across the swiftly flowing river stream. Initially, Bujang Limpu preferred the upland along the riverside.

However, as Nek Usang instructed, it would take up his time and energy. On the other hand, walking along the river stream will lead to the emergence of obstacles. In addition to the swift-flowing water stream, he would have to be cautious to the hungry crocodiles that could incidentally snatch him.

Yet, energized with the enthusiastic motivation of releasing Nibong, he successfully kept away from such fears.

Bujang Limpu kept walking along the swiftly flowing river



stream. Due to the very swift flow of the river stream, he incidentally had to exert his full power to stand against the flow and maintain the balance so that he was not overturned and drowned.

After a while of walking along the river, the first obstacle came up. He saw a school of crocodiles at the other edge of the river.

His heart shrivelled. So far, he only dealt with the deer or birds when he was hunting. He had never stood against a large number of crocodiles frontally.

"There are many crocodiles. What should I do?" Bujang Limpu thought hard to arrange a strategy while controlling the balance of the boat. He remembered Nek Usang's advice.

"If you meet a school of crocodiles, pour the turmeric extract and rice out of the black pouch. They will not disturb you. On the contrary, they will give favour to you." That was Nek Usang's message to Bujang Limpu when he left that morning.

Soon he reached for the black pouch out of his shirt.

His hand adroitly untied the pouch and took a handful of rice and turmeric extract out of the pouch.

He was prepared to pour the rice and turmeric extract when he got closer to the crocodiles in the river.

When he was already close to them, Bujang Limpu had a fast heartbeat. His body trembled and he had cold sweat when he saw the crocodiles' mouths were wide open showing the sharp and large teeth. He collected his courage and resolution.

The image of his lover appeared. She begged for help.

The school of crocodiles that were well prepared to welcome the coming of Bujang Limpu looked impatient to tear off the body of Bujang Limpu. The largest crocodile seemed to have given an instruction. It seemed that the crocodile was the leader of the group.

"Go get him!" the group leader instructed.

In response to the instruction of the group leader, the crocodile group swiftly swam to attack Bujang Limpu. Their mouths were wide open and were ready to take in whatever they met in front of them.

"Wait!" Bujang Limpu said attempting to keep the crocodile groups from attacking him. He poured the rice and turmeric extract around his boat.

"Yellow rice fried chicken!" Bujang Limpu recited the spell taught by Nek Usang.

The group of crocodiles that previously looked wildly fierce and was prepared to attack Bujang Limpu suddenly disappeared

leaving the water calm. It was quiet and deserted as if nothing had just happened.

Out of the seemingly quiet and deserted water, suddenly a large white crocodile jumped out.

"Hi, man, who the hell are you?" the white crocodile asked.

"I'm Bujang Limpu. I am looking for my stolen large ship and my kidnapped beautiful lover. Do you happen to see them?"

"Ooh, well ...so the woman in the large ship is your lover. How poor you are, man. Last night the large ship passed this river and murdered all crocodiles. The chairman of the pirates has a supernatural and divine power. Yet he is very cruel. I failed to defeat him. You see, I have lost my tail because Datok Aek Bara, the chairman of the pirates, had cut it. Be careful when you happen to fight him. If you find him, please kindly take revenge for us and release my fellows that he had captured. He employed them to secure the hideout of the pirates, yet he gives them no food. If they refused his wish, he will kill them. He will eat the meat and wear the skin in the war or when they are pirating," the white crocodile explained.

"All right, I'll do my best. Wish me luck so that I can defeat Dato Aek Bara," Bujang Limpu said before leaving the white crocodile.

Bujang Limpu went on his journey without having to row or

pedalling the boat any longer. A school of seven crocodiles gave a favour to him by pushing the boat. With faster speed, his journey took a shorter time. When he was about to reach the mouth of the river, another danger threatened.

"Bujang, we are sorry that we have to stop here. We cannot deliver you any farther. We are reaching our territorial border. The mouth of the river ahead of you belongs to Akek Sabak. Beware of him," one of the crocodiles said.

"Thank you. Thank you for having helped me. Send my warm regard to your leader," Bujang Limpu said while rowing the boat further.

Meanwhile, the school of crocodiles had disappeared and left Bujang Limpu and Keling alone.

## **VII.**

Finally, Bujang Limpu reached the estuary. The mouth of the river looked quiet and cool. Trees and bushes grow well around the downstream area. When Bujang Limpu's boat started entering the territory, suddenly the previously quiet water turned into the noisy and vociferous. The river water jumped about to the air. Out of the river, a large sabak snake appeared and was about to twist the boat and the body of Bujang Limpu.

Before the sabak snake twisted the body of Bujang Limpu, in a

quick movement, he threw the salt Nek Usang already cast a spell. All at once, the sabak snake felt a severe pain all over her body. Slowly, the sabak snake turned into an old man with thick and long beard nearly reaching his stomach.

"Young man, whoever you are, I will have to thank you since you have released me from the magical spell of Datok Aek Bara," said Akek Sabak.

"You are welcome, Old man. Would you kindly let me know, who had done wrong to you and transformed you into a snake?" Bujang Limpu asked curiously.

Akek Sabak described the incident that he suffered until he was defeated in a war and was cursed to be a snake by Datok Aek Bara. The divine inspiration that he received in his dream revealed that the magical spell would go when his body was poured with the salt to which magical spells were already cast by a woman who had never got married all along of her life. Later, the woman would become his marital spouse.

Bujang Limpu reciprocally described him and Nek Usang. Finally, Akek Saba offered a favour to locate Nibong who was kidnapped by Datok Aek Bara.

They both sailed across the sea to locate the hideout of Datok Aek Bara.

Locating the hideout of Atok Aek Bara was not such an easy attempt. In addition to the fact that nobody had known the place, the place was an isolated and remote hideout so that nobody would find out. It was said that the pirates preferred isolated and remote hideout away from the rural residence in an attempt to keep them from the attack of other pirates.

The pirates always closed the eyes of the hostages with a piece of black cloth and they only opened them when they arrived at the hideout. In that way, the hostages failed to identify the route to the hideout. Although they could escape from the detention room, they would fail to find the way out of the island.

Meanwhile, the boat that carried Bujang Limpu and Akek Sabak already sailed across the sea and broke the wave. They sailed days and nights under the sunny and rainy weather. They kept searching enthusiastically. One night, suddenly the rain fell heavily and a strong wind blew. Meanwhile, the lightening stroke one after another. It seemed that the weather was terribly bad. The large wave hit the boat and damaged it. The bodies of Bujang Limpu and Akek Sabak flung off to the sea, while Keling flung away into the rolling wave.

The sun light was searing and suffocating. Bujang Limpu regained his consciousness. His body sprawled at the beach of a

strange unfamiliar island.

Slowly he moved his body. Initially, he moved his fingers, arms, neck, and legs alternately. His eyes looked around the beach.

"Where am I and where is Akek Sabak?" Bujang Limpu got up right away and walked along the beach to find Akek Sabak.

## **VIII.**

When he walked along the beach, from the distance he saw a grandiose castle-like building.

Curiously, he walked towards the luxurious building. Quietly, he whispered.

"What building is it? It is strange and suspicious that in the middle of the isolated and remote island we can find a grandiose building. Moreover, why should there be bodyguards at the gate? Is it what we call a palace? Then what palace?"

To keep his presence from the inspection of the building bodyguards standing in optimal surveillance and supervision at the gate door and building corners, Bujang Limpu walked stealthily in crouching position. When he was about to reach the gate, vaguely he heard a conversation between the two bodyguards who were on duty.

"Hey, do you know that Datok has another girl?" a bodyguard

opened the conversation to his colleague.

"I do. What I hear is that the new girl is very special. Since it is too special, the girl is kept in his private room. Nobody is allowed to see it, moreover touch it." the other bodyguard responded.

Bujang Limpu who was busy listening to the conversation of the two bodyguards was startled when suddenly someone pulled his hand from the back. The hand of the person closed the mouth of Bujang Limpu to prevent him from speaking. When they were at the perceivably secure place, the mysterious man released his hand off Bujang Limpu's mouth.

"Akek, it's you. Thank God that you are safe," Bujang Limpu said when he recognized the person who had covered his mouth.

"Yes, it's me, Jang. We have to be careful in this place."

"Grandpa, what building is that? It looks so grandiose. Why is guarded by many bodyguards?" Bujang Limpu asked in curiosity.

"Jang, this is the hideout of Datok Aek Bara.

He and his men hide in this place and nobody knows about it. He keeps the pirated stuff at this place. When he already collected a large number of properties, he will sell it to the island over the sea. You have to know something, Jang. Nibong, your lover, is inside that building." Akek Sabak explained briefly.



Bujang Limpu looked delighted and cherished, but it lasted only for a while. He had to find the way to release Nibong before Datok Aek Bara brought her overseas.

"But, Grandpa, how can we release Nibong? It seems impossible to enter the building. The hostile-looking bodyguards stood at every corner of the building. They are fully armed like the guards of a palace," Bujang Limpu said. Akek Saba walked back and forth. Occasionally he frowned. It seemed that he thought seriously. Not long after, he walked to a black stone. At the top of the stone, he sat cross-legged and had a meditation. Before he started, he asked Bujang Limpu to be in optimal surveillance to ensure that nobody would disturb him.

"Jang, stay alert and watch out. Look around you and make sure that nobody will disturb me!" Akek Sabak requested.

"All right, Grandpa," Bujang Limpu said promptly.

When he was assured, Akek Sabak started performing a meditation. Not long after, vaguely Bujang Limpu saw an image got out of the body of Akek Sabak. The image appeared in a flash and moved to the building. It was strange that the two bodyguards did not recognize the presence of Akek Sabak. Freely and confidently, Akek Sabak passed in front of them. After walking around the grandiose building, finally, Akek Sabak stopped in front of a booth, which looked unique and different from other

buildings. He attempted to penetrate the room wall.

However, unexpectedly his body was flung away backward. He stood up right away and arranged his breath rhythm. He was sure that Nibong was inside that room. Again, he attempted to penetrate the room wall magically already fenced by Datok Aek Bara. During the time he attempted to uncover the magical fence developed by Datok Aek Bara, suddenly Akek Sabak's ear caught the sound of step moving closer. He had no time to escape the place when Datok Aek Bara already stood in front of him.

"Hi, Sabak, it's you then. How can you escape from my magical trap?" Datok Eak Bara asked in amaze.

"Ha...ha...ha, Bara. You have forgotten one thing. It is true that I cannot escape from your magical power, but a kind-hearted young man has released me. In later time, the young man will become a calamity for you. He will kill you and destroy your pride," Akek Sabak said.

"Who the hell is the man that you mean, Sabak? You know that so far nobody could survive getting out of my territory. Your rescuer will come to the same destiny as the others."

"They had misfortune due to your deception. If you are a truly fair champion, you will have to stand against him fairly. One to one. Do you dare?" Akek Sabak asked.

"Are you challenging me? Okay. Meet me at the seashore at the full moon. If you win, you may take all of the hostages, belongings, and crews with you. However, if you lose, you will have to be my life-long servant. You will become my slave," Datok Aek Bara challenged.

"I'll take the challenge. See you tomorrow at the seashore," Akek Saba said decisively and left the place right away.

## **IX.**

The morning came to welcome the bright shining sun. No cloud was hanging over the extensive edgeless sky. Bujang Limpu woke up from his sleep when the bright morning sunshine blew his face.

Akek Sabak just smiled to see the whim of Bujang Limpu.

"You have returned then, Grandpa? Forgive me for having fallen asleep when I was supposed to watch you out," Bujang Limpu said in an intense regret.

"That's all right, Jang. Now you have to prepare to anticipate the challenge of Bara. Tonight you will have to defeat him. Therefore, you can regain the love of your lover Nibong," said Akek Sabak.

They arranged a strategy all day long of how to defeat Datok Aek Bara. Until the time when the night almost came over, they had

not found the best strategy to defeat Datok Aek Bara. Bujang Limpu was almost frustrated. His effort to marry Nibong had failed.

In his despair, Akek Sabak had urged him to immediately go to the seashore to meet the challenge of Datok Aek Bara. When they arrived there, they saw Datok Aek Bara was already there standing arrogantly. Meanwhile, under a trunk of a tree, there was a woman drooping with a blank look.

It seemed that the woman was still under the magical trap of Datok Aek Bara. Bujang Limpu recognized that woman very well.

"Nibong," Bujang Limpu said when he saw his lover drooping and powerless. She was tied to a palm tree trunk. He wanted to run to Nibong, but Akek Sabak forbade him.

"Jang, don't get close to the girl. She is still under the evil power of Datok Aek Bara. If you got close to her, she would not recognize you. Even worse, she would attach you," said Akek Sabak.

"Then, what should I do, Grandpa?" Bujang Limpu asked. "Fight Datok Aek Bara. I am going to disrupt his attention and release Nibong from the evil power. He will be inattentive when he is fighting against an unequal man. You will have to take advantage of his inattentiveness and arrogance to defeat him," Akek Sabak

said before he disappeared and left for the palm tree, around which Princess Nibong was tied.

Meanwhile, Datok Aek Bara has impatiently expected the arrival of his old competitor, Akek Sabak. His teeth chattered indicating his intense upset. He clenched his fists. His feet frequently kicked the stones around him and made them scattered.

Bujang Limpu appeared in front of Datok Aek Bara in a full self-confidence but full of cautiousness at once.

When he realized that the contestant was not the one he had expected, Datok Aek Bara turned intensely furious.

"Hey Jang. Who the hell are you? Why are you coming here just to die in vain?" Datok Aek Bara asked arrogantly.

"My teacher will not have to get involved just to defeat you. I'm quite capable of killing you and sending you to the funeral ground," said Bujang Limpu confidently.

Soon afterward, there was a very fierce fight between Bujang Limpu and Datok Aek Bara. Bujang Limpu exerted his martial capability and movement that he had mastered to defeat Datok Aek Bara. At the same time, Datok Aek Bara fought his enemy half-heartedly. He underestimated that his enemy was too young, unequal, and inexperienced. This is what Bujang Limpu had expected.

When Datok Aek Bara was inattentive, with a sharp and flash moment, Bujang Limpu stuck a nibong torn precisely at his toe thumb. Realizing that he was attacked at the unexpected part of his body, Datok Aek Bara was very shocked. Nevertheless, it was too late; the blood flew out of the wounded foot thumb. At the same time, both of his legs became droopy and failed to support the body. Datok Aek Bara died and fell down to the ground. Meanwhile, Akek Sabak had successfully released Princess Nibong from the Datok Aek Bara's magical effect. In line with the previously agreed contract, Bujang Limpu confiscated all belongings and released all hostages. He also regained his large ship.

They left the island by the ship for another island with a more beautiful view. In that island, Bujang Limpu and Princess Nibong lived happily as a married couple and earned prosperity and welfare with all of the people.