

**THE PRINCESS OF KELUMPANG HILL'S PEAK**  
*Legenda Putri Pucuk Bukit Kelumpang*

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## THE PRINCESS OF KELUMPANG HILL'S PEAK

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## **THE PRINCESS OF KELUMPANG HILL'S PEAK**

Bangka was a peaceful, beautiful, and prosperous country surrounded by forests and jungles inhabited by all sorts of flora and fauna. The land was ruled by a wise king who was loved by his people. His name was King Mahmud Malim Demawan. He had a very beautiful queen, Queen Malika Seri Purnama. During his reign, the King had established a peaceful, prosperous, and rich Bangka with abundant natural resources. The people lived a harmonious and wealthy life. Every time a dispute arose among the people, King Mahmud Malim Demawan always treated the people fairly and took a decision wisely. He always thought the best for his people therefore they respected and obeyed his words. In his daily government, the King was always accompanied by Cik Abdillah, his trusted royal adviser who assisted him in making any decision and solving any problems regarding the country. Cik Abdillah had served the King for many years and was fiercely loyal to the King. He was the King's right hand who was always by the King wherever he went to take care of the country's affairs. The King had a special hobby. During his spare time, to kill his boredom, the King liked to hunt in the jungle. Bangka was a country surrounded by deep jungles. The jungles were home to various plants and animals.

The jungle that became the King's favorite place to hunt was called *Kelekak Antu*; it was located in Kelumpang Hill. Kelekak Antu was covered with big and tall trees. Most of the people who lived under the ruling of King Mahmud Malim Demawan relied their lives on forest resources. The people of Bangka Country were mostly carpenters. They used the wood from the forest for furniture manufacturing, as firewood, and as the constructional foundations of their houses. Other than that, Kelekak Antu was rich of various kinds of fruits. The fruits from the forest was consumed as the daily food of the people, aside from becoming a commodity to sell. While some people farmed their own fruits and vegetables, the traders sold the fresh fruits from the forest in the market so that they could get some money from it. Kelekak Antu was King Mahmud Malim Demawan's favorite place to go hunting. Deep in the jungle of Kelekak Antu, various wild games are available, such as deer and wild boar. One of the King's favorite moments during hunting was when he and his entourage entered the entrance of Kelekak Antu.

At that moment, he would hear the birds chirped as if they welcomed him to come into the jungle. Various kinds of birds with beautiful voices lived in Kelekak Antu and their songs enriched the festivities of animals in the jungle. Usually the King took Cik Abdillah and some royal commanders with him as accompanies when he stayed overnight in the jungle to hunt for

some deer. They would depart early in the morning since the journey to reach the jungle was quite a long distance. They would go through a long footpath and cross a small river before they reached Kelekak Antu.

The King and his entourage had to leave early in the morning to prepare their long journey. The small footpath to reach the hill was long enough. They had to go through rocky roads and cross a small river before finally arrived in Kelakak Antu. The King's favorite hunting area in Kelekak Antu was the land in the jungle that was covered with large green leaved trees. The huge roots of the trees deeply delved into the soil and such trees could only be found in the jungle of Kelumpang Hill. When the King's entourage had passed through the pack of huge trees and the chirp of the birds had been heard already, it was the sign that they already arrived in Kelekak Antu. For his commanders and people, King Sultan Mahmud Malim Demawan was a man of unbendable perseverance, dignified, and a perfect figure of leader. He had bold haze, firm figure, and strong and resolute voice. Every time the King delivered his speech, all people would obediently and carefully listen to him.

However, behind the façade of wise and well-respected King of Bangka Country, the King hid a deep sadness in his heart. Not a day went by without him grieving over his own circumstance. Even though he had reached an old age, the King and the Queen

had not been blessed with a child. Years after their marriage, the Queen Malika Seri Purnama had not showed any sign of being pregnant. It made the King felt restless because he had been longing for a beautiful and gallant son, who would later take his throne and become the next king.

The Queen Malika Seri Purnama often noticed the King's forlorn and gloomy face, which he would never show to his people. The Queen shared the same sadness upon their fate, but she always attempted to brace and console the King when he was down. It was just like that night; the Queen found the King was wistfully drowning in his thought, alone in his private chamber. The queen came in and tried to console him.

“My dear husband, every night I see your face and find your face always gloomy and sad,” said the Queen. “The truth is, I know what you were pondering about and I am also thinking the same thing. I really understand that you are longing for a child. I am sorry that I cannot be the perfect wife who can bear you a child,” said the Queen while sobbing. Seeing that her Queen was feeling his sadness, the King was shaken by guilt, and then he said to his Queen, “My dear wife, do not blame yourself for our fate. It is indeed true that I am longing to have a child. I really want to have a son who shall inherit my throne after I am gone.” The King stared lovingly at his Queen's face and continued, “My dear wife, we have to get through this together. Maybe this is God's way to

test our patience. We have to keep trying and have a faith that one-day God the Almighty will grant our prayers.” The Queen nodded softly and started smiling again.

Every night, the King and the Queen always prayed to God and asked for a child. “O God, the Just and the Wise, we pray for Your abundance grace of patience for us so that we can bravely face Your test. Please show us the sign of Your mightiness. Please grant us a chance to have a child. We humbly ask for a child, the greatest and most beautiful grace from You, a child who will complete our family and our kingdom.” That was the pray that was uttered by the King and the Queen every night. The King and Queen had tried various alternatives to have a child. One day, Cik Abdillah appeared before the King and the Queen together with the royal physician to offer a cup of specially mixed concoction for the Queen. The royal physician said, “Your Majesty, forgive my rudeness, but I have attempted to mix herbal concoction for Your Majesty the Queen with a hope that it would improve Your Majesty’s chance of pregnancy. I would never go against the line of destiny drawn by God the Almighty. However, I believe that we should put our effort together and never give up.”

After hearing the physician’s words, the King and the Queen nodded, affirming the physician’s suggestion. The Queen routinely drank the concoction for some months, however that

attempt was to no avail. For his consolation, the King often went to do his old hobby, hunting. When hunting, the King could forget the sorrow that haunted him every night, even for a moment. The King had enjoyed his hunting hobby for years, therefore the experiences sharpened his skills. The King was famous for his excellent archery. The bow and arrow were his main weapon to hunt a deer. The King never hesitated to share his knowledge to his adviser, Cik Abdillah, and his commanders.

He often taught his adviser and commanders when they went hunting together. Other than deer hunting, the King loved to take some beautiful birds from Kelekak Antu as his private collections. The forests in Bangka Country were inhabited by many kinds of beautiful birds with pretty feathers. The King also possessed an excellent skill to make a bird trap. After the entourage came back from hunting, they usually took back meat of deer or some beautiful living birds with pretty feathers to add to the King's collection and beautify the park of the castle. One day, the King intended to go hunting into the jungle. He called his adviser to prepare for their journey before hunting. They wanted go to Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill. All preparation for their journey finally began. Before departed, Cik Abdillah came to King Mahmud Malim Demawan. "Your Majesty, all preparations are finished already. The troops are all ready, with the horses and complete hunting gear. We are waiting for Your Majesty's



command to depart,” reported Cik Abdillah. The King nodded and gave his command, “Make sure that all of our gear and food are ready. We will depart soon.” Cik Abdillah nodded respectfully and he double checked all of the preparation for the last time.

The King bid his farewell to his Queen, Queen Malika Seri Purnama, before he left the castle. “My dear wife, I will go hunting for a couple of days and I will stay in the jungle. Please take care of yourself here.” The queen nodded and answered, “My dear husband, please be careful on your way. I wish you and your entourage safety. I will pray so that God the Almighty will always protect you.” The King saddled his beloved horse, marched into the front of the entourage, and gave his command to his commanders,

“Squad, march forward!” Slowly, the King’s troops passed through the gate of the castle and left the castle ground to the direction of the jungle in Kelumpang Hill.

The Queen smiled while saying goodbye to his husband and his entourage, she felt a pain in his heart. She let the King went to do his hobby so that he could console himself over his grieve and loneliness for not having a child yet. In her heart, the Queen was flooded by guilt, both to his husband and to herself. She was in pain because she had not been able to bear a child of the King. At

night, the Queen would pray to God, “God the Just and the Wise, please grant me with patience to face Your test. Grace me with a chance to be a mother. With your blessing, I would like to make my husband happy and complete our family with the coming of a child.”

At the other place, after going through a long journey, finally in the evening the King’s entourage nearly reached the hunting location that was Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill. Before reaching that point, King Mahmud Malim Demawan and his entourage had passed through hilly and rocky pathway. Then, they crossed a small stream to finally reach the entrance to the hunting area. Kelekak Antu was a wide jungle spread around a big hill named Kelumpang Hill; started from the feet of the hill to the peak of it. The King’s favorite place to hunt was still deep in the jungle. The location was covered by big trees with huge root and thick and green leaves. Those trees were endemic trees of Kelumpang Hill. Time went by and the day was getting late. The sun set already, taking its bright light to hide with it. The jungle became darker. The King and his entourage started to get exhausted and hungry from the long journey to Kelekak Antu. Cik Abdillah said to the King, “Your Majesty, the jungle is getting darker and we are getting tired already. I suggest that we build up a shelter here tonight and we continue our journey and start our hunting tomorrow morning, Your Majesty.” The King

agreed with Cik Abdillah's suggestion and gave his command, "Well then, my squad. Tonight we shall rest here. Build up the tents and prepare yourself for hunting tomorrow."

Based on Cik Abdillah's suggestion to the King, the entourage decided to take arrest that night and they would start their hunting in the next morning. The darkness of Kelekak Antu during the night made Cik Abdillah and the King's commander anxious to continue their journey or to start their hunting immediately. There were too many dangers, such as fierce wild animals, which stay hidden in the jungle.

The troops build up tents as their shelter at the foot of Kelumpang Hill, so they could rest their body and recover from exhaustion. After the commanders started up the fire near the tents, King Mahmud Malim Demawan ate the food that was taken from the castle. After he finished, he went to his tent to sleep. His body was quite tired from the long journey; therefore he quickly fell asleep. In his sleep, the King had a strange dream. In his dream, an old man in white cloak came to him. The body of the man beamed very bright and blinding light. The old man said to him "Greetings, Hunter. I am the guardian of Kelumpang Hill and I come here to deliver a message to you. This is a warning. When you come to this hill, you and your troops shall not destroy the forest and cut the trees carelessly! Do not hunt the animals of the jungle just for your own pleasure!"

He then added, “You have to remember that they are living creatures and you have to preserve their existence; those that live in this jungle. Should you heed what I say, I promise that you will be granted with good luck and generous wealth in your whole life. And remember, you have to be grateful for every wellbeing that you are graced with!” In his dream, the King could not say even a word to the man who suddenly came to him. He was so astounded to see the old man who was standing before him so that he was stupefied and could not move his body. Before having a time to be cured from his shock, the old man transfigured to be a giant bird. The bird had thick and colorful feathers. The feathers were very beautiful and they radiated bright light. The bird flapped his colorful wings, flew away, and slowly he disappeared without any trace.

All of sudden, King Mahmud Malim Demawan awakened from his sleep. It was morning already; the sun had risen and its light brightened his tent. He was disoriented as if he could not believe his dream. The King thought, “Who is the old man? Why does it feel so real?” The King wondered about the meaning of his dream. For quite some time, the King had not recovered from his dream and he was so confused. However, he finally considered his dream as another common dream even though he was still curious about what happened in his dream the night before. The King muttered, “Hmm, it was a bizarre dream. It seems that the

old man wanted to tell me a message. I have to be careful in today's hunting." That morning, after packing his tent and gear, the King along with Cik Abdillah and his entourage continued their journey to the jungle of Kelekak Antu.

They went in deeper to the Kelumpang Hill and so they could start the hunting. King Mahmud Malim Demawan and his squad continued their journey to the jungle area for a few hours already. They started to hear the sweet chirping of the; a sign that they had passed through the area of the foot of Kelumpang Hill and that they started entering the deeper part of the jungle. To reach the hunting location, the entourage had to pass through a challenging road. The path started to ascend to the uphill. They needed to move through big rocks and thick trunk of trees with their huge roots strongly delved into the soil that challenged their journey. The jungle of Kelekak Antu that they had travelled through was a forest covered with massive trees. To penetrate into deeper areas, the troops needed to cut some trees that came in their way and they had to open their own path to enter the jungle.

Looking at the trees that came in their journey, the King suddenly remembered his dream at night before and he warned his adviser and his commanders about it. "My adviser, cut a few trees only that hinder our journey to create a new path to get into the jungle!" He then added, "Stick some stems of the trees that you cut to the ground as our sign to get home later. Therefore, we do

not need to cut the other trees to open our path to return to the palace.”

The adviser nodded and answered, “Very well, Your Majesty, we shall obey your command.”

After travelled through some paths that they opened by themselves, the King started his hunting. Using his sharp hearing and sight, the King could easily find a pack of deer that was enjoying their meal behind the bush. With his bow readied on his hand, King Mahmud Salim Demawan walked stealthily and watched the deer pack carefully. After reaching his ideal position, he took out an arrow and aimed at a fat deer that was eating carelessly. With an agile movement, the King released his arrow. In a split second, the arrow flew swiftly and hit the body of the deer. The King smiled satisfactorily to see his prey fall to the ground. Cik Abdillah complimented the King because he had successfully caught his prey.

“As expected of you, Your Majesty, I never doubt your excellence in using bow and arrow for hunting. I was convinced that, with such a long experience in hunting, Your Majesty would be able to put the deer down with one accurate shot,” said Cik Abdillah. The King only replied Cik Abdillah’s compliment with a smile. He commanded his guardsman to take the dying deer.

“Do not let it suffer for far too long. Quickly take the meat of the deer for our dinner, keep the skin to be given to the royal leather artisan, and bury the rest of its bones in the ground!” The guardsmen skillfully carried out their wise King’s command.

Then, the King said, “Night has finally fallen. I am pretty much content with our hunting today. Tomorrow, we shall come back to the palace through the path along which we put our marks yesterday.” The advisor and the commanders who accompanied the King nodded, affirming the command of King Sultan Mahmud Malim Demawan. Meanwhile, in the palace, one day after her husband left for hunting in Kelekak Antu, Queen Malika Seri Purnama felt very unwell and nauseous. She felt that her body changed.

At the beginning, the Queen thought that she felt unwell because of fatigue. However, she was not getting better, even after two days. She finally called the royal physician to diagnose her illness. After the physician examined the Queen’s body, he deliver the Queen’s condition with a bright face, “Your Majesty the Queen, I shall deliver good news. From the result of examination to your body, I am sure that Your Majesty has shown the symptoms of pregnancy.”

After hearing the news from the physician, Queen Malika Seri Purnama jumped joyfully and cried happy tears. “Is that really

true, dear royal physician? After this very long wait, finally God the Almighty has granted my plea,” she said while she was tearing of happiness. She delivered his gratefulness for his pregnancy. “Dear God, the Hearing, I am very grateful for your grace; the grace that we have been waiting for a long time. I promise that I will cherish my pregnancy until I give birth to our long-awaited child.” She could not wait to deliver the happy news to King Mahmud Malim Demawan when he came home. Three days after the departure of King Mahmud Malim Demawan to go hunting, the King’s entourage finally safely arrived at the castle. The Queen welcomed the King’s arrival with bright face. She immediately told the great news, which later made the King’s touched.

“Darling, while you and your troops went hunting, a God’s miracle happened. I have good news for you,” said the queen with a delighted face.

The King could not hide his curiosity and he asked, “What is it, my Queen? You look so bright today.” The Queen could not hold her tears; she cried happy tears while saying, “My dear husband, our efforts and prayers for years were heard by God the Almighty. I am pregnant; I bear a child that we have been waiting for such a long time.”



After hearing the news from the Queen, King Mahmud Malim Demawan abruptly jumped joyfully. He could not stop chanted his gratitude to God for the grace that was given to them. The King was so moved by the news, he said, “My Queen, finally our patience bears fruit, we will soon become parents.” He added, “May God grace us with health and patience, so that we can wait until the day of the childbirth.”

Time went by, the Queen carefully took care of her pregnancy that was getting bigger day by day. King Sultan Mahmud Malim Demawan had made all the preparations to welcome their first child who would inherit his throne as a king.

The King was very sure that he would get a son. He had prepared all clothes and other necessities for a boy; the crown prince whom he had waited for a long time. From an earlier time, he had prepared various palace agendas for the period after the birth of his son. It was prepared to prepare his son to the crown prince of the palace. The King’s ambition to have a son slowly turned him into an arrogant and obtrusive person. Months passed by, Queen Malika Seri Purnama’s belly was getting bigger and it was getting close to the day of the childbirth. Finally, the long-awaited moment came. One morning, the King was doing a preparation for his visit to one village in Bangka country that was hit by plagues. Suddenly, he heard Queen Malika Seri Purnama scream loudly from the room. The Queen felt great pain in her belly and

it spread throughout her whole body. A midwife was called to help the delivery process of the Queen's baby. The whole palace was filled with excitement to welcome the birth of their beloved King and Queen's first child. After some time, finally the first cry of the baby was heard and it was welcomed by tears of joy of Queen Malika Seri Purnama and King Mahmud Malim Demawan. The delivery process went well. The Queen looked worn out after the exhausting delivery process. The Queen cried happily when she saw her newborn baby for the first time. The Queen hugged the newborn baby tightly and lovingly. She was very happy because she could finally hold the child that she had been waiting for years. After the baby was wrapped to keep warm, the Queen asked the midwife to take the baby to King Mahmud Malim Demawan. The Midwife carried the baby and took it to the King. The King was very happy to welcome the birth of his child and he could not wait to finally able hold the baby. "Finally, here comes the moment that I have been waiting. Give me my baby. I want to hold my beloved crown prince."

The midwife walked slowly while holding the baby. She could not hide her fearful expression when she saw the King who could not wait to hold his baby. She stammered, "Forgive me, Your Majesty, the baby is not a son. Queen Malika Seri Purnama has given birth of a beautiful and healthy baby girl." The midwife finally showed up the face of the very beautiful thick-haired baby

girl. The baby's ankle had a unique birth mark in the form of grey circle. Slowly, the midwife tried to move the small baby to the King's lap. After hearing what the midwife had said, the King's happy face suddenly changed. He tried to hold in his emotion, but he could not hide his disappointment. He never thought that he would be given a daughter. He always wanted a son that he hoped would take the throne in the future.

King Sultan Mahmud Malim Demawan's face turned red. He was furious. With trembling lips, he shouted to the midwife, "I don't believe what you say! Why is it a daughter, and not a son?"

The King could not accept the reality that the Queen had just given birth of a daughter. The Queen, who was still worn out and exhausted, tried to convince the King. "My dear husband, what the midwife has said is true. Look, I have just delivered a beautiful little daughter. She is our baby. We have waited for her for years."

The midwife showed off the face of the very beautiful and thick-haired baby. She has a birthmark, a grey circle, on her ankle. The King saw her daughter's face for the first time. He stared at the face of the baby who was wrapped with a blanket and sleeping tightly. The baby's eyes were so rounded just like him, her lashes were curly, and her face was so beautiful just like her mother, Queen Malika Seri Purnama, who had given birth to her. In his

heart, he loved his newly-born baby. However, his great ego beat himself. The King still could not accept the reality that he had a daughter. The royal adviser, Cik Abdillah, who witnessed everything finally spoke up.

“Forgive my intrusion, Your Majesty. I do not have any intention to intervene. However, isn’t it the same whether you were given a son or a daughter, My Lord? The Princess can be educated and it is not impossible for her to take the throne in the future and lead our country in your succession, Your Majesty. The most important thing is that we should give our thanks to any blessing that is given by God to us.”

After he heard Cik Abdillah advice, the King who held great disappointment for that matter was getting angrier. “I do not want this child. Whatever happens, she cannot be a king in the future.” Anger and madness had overwhelmed the King’s mind. He shouted, “Cik Abdillah, I command you to throw this baby to the jungle of Kelekak Antu now. I do not want to see this child any more. Let it be eaten by the wild animals in the jungle!” Everyone who heard what the King had said was startled. They could not believe that their wise and prudent King would be able to make such a horrible decision. Cik Abdillah was very shocked to hear the command that was given to him. However, he could not object the King’s command. He carefully took the baby from the midwife’s arms and held her. He nodded with a heavy heart and

he went to fulfill the King's command. Deep in his heart, Cik Abdillah could not bear to carry out the King's command to throw away the innocent baby to the jungle.

Queen Malika Seri Purnama who heard the King's command fell and slumped. The Queen shouted to the King. She wished for the King to change his mind. "Dear husband, please, don't do that. She is your daughter, our daughter! Please, don't do that!" However, the Queen's words could not shake the King's decision. The Queen was still so weak that she could not do anything. Finally, the Queen gave up and she wept endlessly when she saw Cik Abdillah took her newborn daughter and went out of the palace. Riding a royal cart and accompanied by some guardsmen who strictly guarded him, Cik Abdillah departed to Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill to carry out King Mahmud Malim Demawan's command; leaving the newborn crown princess in the jungle so that she would be eaten by wild animals. It was raining cats and dogs and the thunder fiercely crashed outside when Cik Abdillah in his cart passed through the gate of the palace and went to Kelekak Antu, which was located in Kelumpang Hill. Inside the cart, he wrapped the little baby princess with a sheet of thick blanket and held her tight.

He watched the tiny face of the innocent baby. The baby was fast asleep in Cik Abdillah's embrace. In his heart, Cik Abdillah begged for forgiveness to God, for the thing that he was about to

do only to obey his honorable and respectable King. It was already late at night when Cik Abdillah arrived in Kelekak Antu. Heavy rain fell down to earth accompanied by violent thunderclap. Cik Abdillah held the little baby princess to get in the jungle. Carefully Cik Abdillah put the baby who was wrapped with a sheet of thick blanket under a huge tree in the jungle. His hands were shaking when he put the baby on the ground, under the tree. He could not hide his raging emotions because of what he did. The wind blew even more violently that night. Finally, he left the baby in the jungle and went away to find a shelter for himself. In the palace, Queen Malika Seri Purnama did not stop crying and she came closer to King Mahmud Malim Demawan who sat alone and was drown in his wistful thinking. While sobbing, the Queen said, “Dear Husband, how could you ask Cik Abdillah to left our daughter in the jungle? Don’t you realize how long we have been waiting for a baby? Now, our years of longing was in vain. I don’t know for how long we have to wait until we finally get our child again.” The King was stunned by the Queen’s words. He could only cry while hugging his Queen.

“Forgive me, my dear Wife, my mind went mad. I have always waited for a son; a son that I will teach to be a gallant man and a strong candidate to be the King. I am deeply disappointed because the reality does not go as I expected. I have never expected a daughter in our kingdom.”

The Queen answered, “Darling, isn’t it our duty to always be grateful for any grace of God that was given to us? Every night we pray to God so that He would listen to us, so that He would give us a child. Now the God has answered and granted our wishes, but our efforts turned to dusts because of your selfishness and your fiery temperament.” After he listened to what the Queen said, the King finally realized that he had made a grievous mistake. He realized that he had blindly followed his emotions so that he made a decision without thinking about the impact of that decision. He regretted what he did; when he asked Cik Abdillah to leave their baby in the jungle to be a prey for the wild animals. However, his regret came too late. In the next day, Cik Abdillah and his troops came back to the palace.

He directly gave his report to King Mahmud Malim Demawan while bringing along a bundle of cloth. With a weary face, he reported, “Your Majesty, I have carried out your command well. This is a proof of my finished duty, should Your Majesty be willing to see it,” said Cik Abdillah while handing the bundle to the King’s hands. The King stared and frowned for a while before he opened the bundle on his hands. Carefully, he opened the bundle and his hands trembled when he realized that the bundle wrapped the remains of crushed baby bones who was eaten by wild animals. The Queen screamed hysterically and she slumped to the floor after she noticed the content of the bundle. The Royal

Adviser asked for the King's forgiveness for the thing that he had committed.

“Forgive me, Your Majesty. I only meant to obey your command. I left the Princess in Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill late at night and when I came back in the morning, I could only find these bones,” said Cik Abdillah with trembling lips. King Mahmud Malim Demawan could only nod impassively when he heard what the Adviser said. The King said, “My loyal Adviser, what you have done was not your fault. Everything was my responsibility. I was the one who commanded you to leave my child in the jungle.” Then, the King asked the Adviser to leave. After that commotion, the King regretted his decision at all times. He begged for forgiveness from God, for he had committed a terrible mistake. He prayed, so that God forgave what he did and he also begged for another chance, so that the Queen could bear a child again for him. In his heart, he promised that he would sincerely take care of and raise his baby, no matter what the gender of the baby was. He chanted the same prayers over and over again every night, hoping that God would be willing to grant his request. Day after day, month after month, and year after year. Queen Malik Seri Purnama had not had her second chance to bear a child.

The King and the Queen waited for years for their baby to come, but it seemed that their prayers had not been heard yet. The



situation made the King, the Queen, and all of the habitants of the palace getting sadder. Time went by and eighteen years had passed since the tragedy. Whenever the King remembered the tragedy, he would slump into sadness and grieve. To kill his time and to forget the tragedy, the King often did his hobby, hunting.

Just like usual, he always went hunting in Kelekak Antu in Bukit Kelumpang. The King was always accompanied by his trusted Adviser, Cik Abdillah, who would loyally attend the King wherever he went. One day, King Mahmud Malim Demawan decided to indulge in his hobby of hunting. The King and his entourage, equipped with their complete hunting gear, arrived in the jungle of Kelekak Antu. Since early in the morning, they had started their hunting by spying on a pack of deer that usually wandered around the jungle. However, even though midday had come and the sun soared high already, they could not catch any prey. Even after searching and lurking diligently for a prey since early morning, the King could not find any animal. It really made him wonder and curious. Then, the King took Cik Abdillah and his guards to go deeper into the jungle of Kelekak Antu.

After they went in deeper, the King gave a command for Cik Abdillah and the guards to spread to five directions, so that they had larger hunting ground. Late in the afternoon, the entourage heard melodious chirps of the birds. The birds chirped very loudly so that the voice reached all over the jungle. All of the King's

entourage that was spread all over the place could even easily hear the chirping. The King and his whole troops were mesmerized by the mysterious songs of the birds. They were very sure that the birds were of different kind from the usual birds that they often found when they hunted in Kelumpang Hill. The King was astonished with the voices of the bird and he decided to catch the bird. Cik Abdillah and the King's guards were also amazed by the beauty of the birds' chirping. The King's initial attention to catch a deer suddenly shifted. At that moment, he just wanted to catch the mysterious bird with its beautiful voice. The King said, "My squad, don't you hear that beautiful chirp of bird? Now, I command you to find where the bird is."

The guards who was spread all over the place moved deeper to the jungle to find the source of the voice. The King continued exploring the jungle to find the bird with beautiful voices, but he could not find it. The King's Adviser and guards were so lost when they tried to find the source of the beautiful voice. They could clearly hear the chirp of the bird, but they could not find the source of it.

It seemed like this voice came out from all the edges of the jungle. One of the King's guard finally admitted that he saw the bird. "Your Majesty, I saw a big bird with beautiful voice. The bird has sonorous and soothing voice.

Not only that, Your Majesty, the bird also has long and colorful feathers. I dare to swear, Your Majesty, that I have never met a bird with such a beauty.” After he listened to the guard’s report, the King was so curious and he really wanted to catch the bird and took it to the palace. The night fell unnoticeably. King Mahmud Malim Demawan decided to stop the hunting for that day. He wanted to go back to the castle and prepared more logistics and guards to catch the mysterious bird with beautiful feather and voice.

“Cik Abdillah and all guards, I really want to catch the bird with the beautiful voice. Now, we shall come back to the palace. We will continue our hunting tomorrow after we make better preparation.” That night, Cik Abdillah and the King’s entourage quickly went back to the palace. The next day, the King and his entourage were finally prepared to go hunting again. This time, they have done a different and unusual preparation. The entourage equipped themselves with more logistics than usual because they would widen their hunting ground until the peak of Kelumpang Hill. King Mahmud Malim Demawan also took more guards than usual. He took his best guards and commanders. And of course, his loyal Royal Adviser, Cik Abdillah, also went with him. The King did not want to lose his chance to catch the bird that already made him so curious. The story from his guard about the bird’s beautiful voice and feathers gave him greater motivation

to catch the bird and put it in the castle's park. After all preparations were completed, King Mahmud Malim Demawan bid his goodbye to Queen Malika Seri Purnama before he departed to Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill. When the Queen noticed the special preparation of the King and the number of the guardsmen that was more than usual, she had bad premonition when she said goodbye to the King.

“My beloved husband, please, always be careful during your journey. Always be reminded that you should not be so obtrusive to the thing that you want. Remember that following your ego blindly will do harm, to you and the country that you currently lead.” The King nodded softly and smiled while listening to his Queen's advices. “Don't worry, my Queen. I will be all right. When I come back, I will take the bird with the beautiful voice and feathers to keep us company in the castle's park,” replied the King optimistically.

After saying his goodbye, the King and his entourage departed from the palace. The Queen stared at the entourage's leaving the palace; her heart was scythed. She could not shake the feeling that something would happen to her husband. Yet, she tried to throw away the bad thoughts and she kept praying so that God would protect his husband. She did not want to lose her beloved King. King Mahmud Malim Demawan went hunting with a full spirit. He felt reassured and confident because he took more guards and

more complete gear with him. He was sure that this time he would catch the bird with beautiful voice that had made him very curious. When they arrived in Kelekak Antu in Kelumpang Hill, the King did not waste his time. As usual, they had to pass a footpath with rocky surface and cross a small river to reach Kelekak Antu. When they arrived at the hunting ground, the King commanded the entourage to go to the dense jungle of Kelekak Antu until they reach a very deep area inside the jungle. After they arrived in the deeper area of the jungle, the entourage were spread to five directions. They spread to besiege the bird that was estimated to stay in Kelekak Antu. While the guardsmen spread all over the place, the King asked Cik Abdillah to stay with him and observe the whereabouts of the bird. After they reached their posts, the guards and the commanders installed bird traps along their surveillance route. With more guards and traps all over the place, the King was very sure that one of the trap would definitely catch the bird that, at that time, turned into his ultimate prey. The King and his guards waited for quite some time for the bird to appear. Near the twilight, beautiful chirp of bird was suddenly heard. The King sharpened his ears and eyes to observe the source of the voice closely. The voice was getting louder by time. Each of the King's guards who were spread in all directions was ready with their trap. Slowly, the wind around Kelekak Antu blew harder than usual. From behind the trees, a big bird suddenly appeared and passed through the dense trees of Kelekak Antu.

The birds flapped its wide and colorful wings and then it flew above the entourage, here and there, while chirping as if she wanted to show its annoyance over the King and his entourage's intention to hunt her. For a moment, King Mahmud Malim Demawan was astonished to see the beauty of the bird's colorful feather and beautiful voice. He had never seen such a gorgeous bird before.

The King did not idle around. He shouted and commanded all of his troops to throw their traps to the bird.

“My squad, catch the bird using your traps!” All of the guardsmen threw the traps that they have prepared before to the bird. The bird flew agilely, she circled around to avoid the traps that were thrown to it. The bird was so smart as if she knew the directions of the traps so that it could avoid them and no trap was able to touch its body. The bird flapped her wings and flew higher to the peak of Kelumpang Hill. The King was irritated because no trap was able to touch the bird. Angrily, he commanded Cik Abdillah to chase after the bird to the peak of the hill with him.

“Cik Abdillah, follow me to go after the bird up to the hill!” said the King. The King and his adviser darted to the elevated road to the peak of Kelumpang Hill, his troops were following behind them. The bird flew quickly, passing through the branches of trees to the peak of Kelumpang Hill. Her long and colorful tail

beautifully moved along with her shift movement. Near the peak of Kelumpang Hill, the bird landed on the branch of a big tree that was not so high from the ground. The bird sang again, showing off her beautiful voice while she was resting on the branch of tree. Sultan Mahmud Malim Demawan who finally arrived in the area near Kelumpang Hill discreetly moved following the bird's movement. He cautiously and carefully moved closer to the bird and waited for the right moment to catch her. Sneaking, the King took out a golden blow gun with poisoned arrow from his pocket. He initially wanted to take the bird home as a pet to festive the park of the castle. However, that desire was gone.

That time, the King only wanted to satisfy his ego to take down the bird. The King was angry and insulted because he could not catch the bird alive. In his mind, he only wanted to beat the bird, even if he had to kill her. Cik Abdillah who followed behind the King wondered and questioned, why the King took out a poisoned arrow. Didn't the King want to catch the bird alive instead of killed her with the poisoned arrow? Cik Abdillah started as the King changed his mind so quickly. He wanted to warn the King but it was too late for him to stop the King. With heavy breathings, the King targeted the bird using his blow gun and he shot the arrow with his full power. His shot precisely hit the bird's ankle. The bird then weakly slumped and fell to the ground.

The bird fell with a heavy thud to the ground under the big tree where she rested for a while.

The king was so happy for his success in taking down the bird with only one accurate shot. He and Cik Abdillah hurriedly went over the source of the thud voice to see the bird that he had taken down.

However, the King was so surprised when he arrived in the place under the tree where the bird fell. The King and Cik Abdillah did not find a bird that was hurt by an arrow, but they found a beautiful lady who was hurt on her feet. King Mahmud Malim Demawan was so surprised. Didn't he shoot a bird? So why did they find a beautiful lady with a wounded ankle? Cik Abdillah thought that there was something suspicious behind all that things. The lady laid limply on the ground and she looked so weak due to her wounded leg. On her ankle, a birth mark in the form of grey circle was seen. The birth mark appeared so subtle because the color was very contrast with the lady's bright complexion. Cik Abdillah who saw the birth mark was reminded of something. The birth mark took him to the tragedy that happened eighteen years before. Cik Abdillah could not believe what he saw. The birth mark was exactly the same with the mark belonged to the crown princess of King Mahmud Malim Demawan who was born eighteen years before. The birth mark convinced Cik Abdillah that the bird with long and beautiful



feathers that had beautiful voice, that was initially hunted to be the collection in the park of the castle, was indeed the crown princess of the kingdom. She was the baby that he left behind in the jungle of Kelumpang Hill eighteen years before. Cik Abdillah stuttered and said what he thought to the King, who was so confused to see the beautiful lady that was lying weakly in front of him. “Forgive me, Your Majesty, I am sure that this beautiful lady is the crown princess; the daughter of Your Majesties the King and Queen that I left in the jungle eighteen years ago.” Cik Abdillah added, “Do Your Majesty remember? The baby who was born by Queen Malika Seri Purnama eighteen years ago had a birth mark on her ankle? The birth mark that was exactly the same with this lady made me very sure, that this lady is indeed our Kingdom’s Crown Prince, Your Majesty.”

King Mahmud Malim Demawan gaped, as if he could not believe what he just heard. His mind and logic refused to just accept his adviser’s words that easily. How could his daughter, whom he believed to be dead eaten by wild animals eighteen years ago, suddenly appear before him? The King persisted that he could not believe that the beautiful lady was his daughter.

The night came without the King and Cik Abdillah realizing it. The sun set in the west and the full moon shone brightly, lighting the entire Kelumpang Hill. Within the King and Cik Abdillah’s heated debate, the beautiful lady who laid weakly tried to move

her lips to say something. The moonlight beamed to her; highlighting the beauty of her face.

Breathing shortly, the lady said, “Father, what...the adviser said... it’s true. I... I am your daughter; the daughter that you...had...thrown away...to the jungle. When you threw me out...the...the guardian of the hill...took care of me...until I was grown up. I miss you Father...and...Mother. I am sorry...I have not been able...to be...a good daughter for you...Your Majesty. I am...sorry.” The lady’s voice grew weaker and finally her eyes closed slowly. The lady fell into unconsciousness. Before the King and his advisor recovered from their shock, suddenly a bird with the same beautiful and colorful feathers appeared from behind the trees. That moment, King Mahmud Malim Demawan recalled the figure of the bird. The bird with colorful feathers once appeared in his dream as an old man. He appeared when he went hunting in the jungle, exactly before Queen Malika Seri Purnama got pregnant with their first child. Suddenly, the bird shapeshifted into an old man in white cloak whose entire body shone brightly. He stood right before the unconscious crown princess. The old man said something in his sonorous voice, “King Mahmud Malim Demawan, this girl said only the truth. She is indeed your daughter. For your selfishness, you asked your envoy to leave her alone here in the jungle.”

The King was angry to hear what the old man said, “I do not believe what you said. My daughter was dead, eaten by wild animals, eighteen years ago. I saw the remains of her crushed bones with my own eyes.”

The old man said, “I had to lie to your adviser. That night, I put the bones of a monkey in the place of your daughter whom you threw away. If you knew that your daughter was alive, you would try to find your daughter and you would always try to throw her away from the palace. That was why I did what I did. I decided to take care of her until she grew up and with the grace of God, your daughter possessed the ability to shapeshift to a bird, just like me. Therefore, I decided to make her the Princess of Kelumpang Hill’s Peak.”

Then, the old man looked at the crown princess in front of him. She was lying helplessly on the ground. With his dignified voice, he called the lady, “O Princess of Kelumpang Hill’s Peak, here comes the time for you to bid your farewell to your father.” At that moment, the old man’s hands radiated bright light that covered the lady’s entire body. Slowly, the lady’s body that was lying on the ground was lifted and floated in the air. The wound on her leg started to heal and completely cured in a second. Slowly, the princess opened her eyes. Her body that floated in the air then stood up and landed on the ground.

The lady stood firmly before his father, King Mahmud Malim Demawan. The King was finally able to see face of the beautiful lady in front of him, clearly. He slowly believed that the lady in front of him was really his daughter. She had Queen Malika Seri Purnama's face and the birth mark on her ankle made him fully believed that she was indeed his daughter; the daughter who was born by the Queen eighteen years ago. No words coming out of his mouth other than silent cries.

“So, you are my daughter,” said the King while sobbing. “I am so sorry my daughter, I deeply regret the thing that I did to you. I would do everything to make up for my sin and I would take you back to the palace to meet your mother. I will make you the crown princess of the country.”

The King's daughter smiled and said, “My beloved father, I really miss you and I also really miss mother. You should believe me when I say that I never blame you for what happens. Everything has been fated to happen this way and it is all the fate of God. I am very sorry that I cannot be a loyal daughter of you, Your Majesty the King. It is now my fate to be the guardian of Kelumpang Hill, forever. Please send my love to beloved mother. The time has come for me to go.”

Before the King was able to say anything, suddenly the princess's body radiated very bright light. Slowly, she floated and turned

into a big bird with long and colorful tail. The bird flapped her large wings in the air and she flew higher and higher. The bird chirped beautiful song before she flew away as if the song was her farewell greeting to her father. King Mahmud Malim Demawan could only stare in tears when he saw the bird that was none other than his daughter. The bird with beautiful feathers slowly flew further to the peak of Kelumpang Hill and finally disappeared, swallowed by darkness.

The old man in a white cloak who silently stood up in front of the King and his Adviser suddenly disappeared. There was only an echoing voice without the man's tangible body.

“King Mahmud Malim Demawan, I hope you could learn from this incident. Remember, you must be grateful to God for the grace that is given to you and you must not be a selfish person who does anything to get what you want!” The voice was so clear and it rang in the ears of the King. After the bird, the incarnation of his daughter, and the echoing voice had gone, King Mahmud Malim Demawan could not bear his sadness.

He was stricken with great remorse for all the incidents that happened to him. He finally realized that all the tragedies that occurred in his life were due to his own doing. Actually, he was a kind and wise person. However, he had too great of selfishness, that he finally lost something precious for the second time. The

King could not bear the tremendous guilt in his heart, he finally fell down to the ground. Everything around him turned dark and the King finally fainted. By the time when the King woke up, he was surprised because he was already back to the palace. While the King was unconscious, Cik Abdillah and his guards hurriedly took the King back to the palace safely.

When the King opened his eyes for the first time, he could see the face of Queen Malika Seri Purnama who smiled at him. Beside the Queen, there was his adviser, Cik Abdillah, and some other guardsmen who were always ready to guard him until he was awake. When the King saw his wife's face, he could not bear his terrible feeling of regret. He begged forgiveness to the queen, "My beloved wife, I ask for your forgiveness for my grievous mistake. I felt really guilty for what I had done to our daughter eighteen years ago. It turns out that our daughter, who I left behind in the jungle, was not eaten by wild animals. She grows up to be a very beautiful girl who was able to shapeshift into a bird with magnificent feathers. She becomes the guardian of Kelumpang Hill. Forgive my selfishness, for not receiving her as our child. Everything is too late now." The King's lips trembled while he was telling the story of what happened. He tried so hard to hold his tears. The Queen immediately hugged her husband and said, "My dear husband, I have already heard about everything. When you were unconscious, Cik Abdillah had told me

everything. We shall not cry over a spilled milk and we cannot change anything. We could only take everything as a lesson.

I have let go of our beloved daughter, whose destiny was becoming the guardian of Kelumpang Hill. I hope that you can let go of all your bad personalities in yourself. I am sure that behind all those flaws, you are a good husband, father, and leader both for your family and your people.” After listening to his wife’s words, King Mahmud Malim Demawan felt a little bit relieved. “Thank you, darling, I am grateful for your loyalty. You are always by my side and always support me in tough and happy moments. Forgive me, because I have not been able to be a great husband for you and a great leader for my people. I promise that I will live up to your and my people’s belief in me and I will change into a better person.”

Slowly, the King recovered from his slump and he started to improve himself. The King tried hard to eliminate his vices. With the faithful support of his beloved wife, the King was finally able to be a wise and just king for his people and a good husband for the Queen. Cik Abdillah also still loyally held his duty as the trusted Adviser of the King to take care of the country’s affairs. The King still patiently prayed for another chance to God so that he was given a trust to have another child. From his life experiences, the King learned to be grateful to everything that God had given to him. Finally, the King and Queen’s patience

and prayers were answered. Queen Malika Seri Purnama could finally bear a child and gave birth to a beautiful son. The King and the Queen could not be thankful enough for God who had given them a beautiful gift. The King promised that he would take care of and raise their son, sincerely, until he became an adult. Until this day, when people hear the beautiful voice of bird chirping around Kelumpang hill, many of them believe that it was the voice of the princess' incarnation who guards Kelumpang Hill. She was called the Princess of Kelumpang Hill's Peak.