

**THE PRINCE PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE**  
**SEPANJANG**  
*Pangeran Purbaya dan Raksasa Jin Sepanjang*

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# THE PRINCE PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE SEPANJANG

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# Pangeran Purbaya dan Raksasa Jin Sepanjang

Cerita Rakyat dari Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta

Ditulis oleh  
**Herry Mardiyanto**

# **Pangeran Purbaya dan Raksasa Jin Sepanjang**

## **Cerita Rakyat dari Daerah Istimewa Yogyakarta**

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## Foreword

Literature work is not only series of word but it also talks about life, both realistically and idealistically of human. If it is realistic, the literature work usually contains life experiences, good model, and wisdom which have been added various style and imagination along with it. Meanwhile, if it idealistic, the literature work contains moral lecture, good character, advices, philosophical symbols, culture and other things related to human life. The life itself is very diverse, varies, and full of various problems and conflicts faced by humans. The diversity in humans life also affects to the diversity of literature work because the contents are inseparable from civilized and dignified humans life.

The literature works that dealing with life utilizes language as medium of deliverance and imaginative art as its *cultural land*. On the basis of the language medium and imaginative art, literature is multidimensional and multi-interpretative. Using language medium, imaginative art and cultural dimension, literature deliver messages to be reviewed or analyzed from various perspectives. The outcome of that perspective depends greatly on who is reviewing and analyzing with various socio-cultural and knowledge background. There is a time when a literary reviewer reviews from the point of view of metaphor, myth, symbol, power, ideology, economy, politics, and culture can be refuted by other reviewers who see from perspective of sound, referent, or irony. Even so, Heraclitus said, "However opposite they work together and from different directions, the most beautiful harmony emerges".

There are many lessons that we can get from reading literature, one of which is reading folktales that are adapted or reprocessed into children's stories. The results of reading literature always inspire and motivate readers to be creative in

finding something new. Reading literature can trigger further imagination, open enlightenment, and add insights. For this reason, we express our gratitude for the processors for the story. We also express our appreciation and gratitude to the Head of the Coaching Center, Head of the Learning Division, and Head of the Subdivision of Modules and Teaching Materials and staffs for all the efforts and hard works carried out until the realization of this book.

Hopefully this storybook is not only useful as a reading material for students and the community to foster a culture of literacy through the National Literacy Movement program, but also useful as an enrichment of our knowledge of past life that can be utilized in addressing current and future life developments.

Jakarta, June 2016

Regards,  
Prof. Dr. Dadang Sunendar, M. Hum.

## **Preface**

This folklore "Prince Purbaya and The Giant Genie Sepanjang" was provided in the context of conducting activities to foster reading and writing culture related to the School Literacy Movement held by the Ministry of Education and Culture in 2015. The activity was the implementation of Minister of Education and Culture Regulation Number 23 Year 2015 concerning Growth of Character.

The movement, which took the theme "Language as Character Cultivator", was followed up by the Language Development Center of Language Development and Cultivation Agency by implementing the National Literacy Movement (GNLB) program which provides literacy material sourced from national wisdom in the form of literacy material sourced from folklore in all regions of Indonesia.

In that context, the Language Development Center of Language Development and Cultivation Agency together with Language Offices of 30 provinces throughout Indonesia implemented the Folk Story Writing Program for elementary school students, one of them was the folktale "Prince Purbaya and The Giant Genie Sepanjang", in hope to be able to develop the character of children with high literacy levels.

Yogyakarta, April 2016

Herry Mardiyanto

## Table of Contents

Foreword.....	v
Preface.....	vii
Table of Contents .....	viii
THE PRINCE PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE	
SEPANJANG .....	1
MATARAM: A PROSPEROUS KINGDOM.....	3
TERRITORIAL EXPANSION OF PANEMBAHAN SENOPATI FOR THE KINGDOM .....	9
THE FIRST MEETING OF RADEN KUNING AND RARA RAMBAT .....	24
THE SHAPE-SHIFTING OF THE GIANT GENIE	
SEPANJANG .....	37
THE FIGHT BETWEEN PANGERAN PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE SEPANJANG .....	45
The Author.....	51
The Editor.....	53



## **THE PRINCE PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE SEPANJANG**

It had been midnight, yet Panembahan Senopati was remained silent in the terrace of the kingdom. Once, he took a deep breath, looking around the darkness of the midnight. He was feeling a serious anxiety that remained in the deepest of his heart.

“I’m sorry, Your Majesty. You don’t need to be concerned with this matter. I agree with your planning of making an expansion for the Mataram Kingdom. Let alone, the planning is also for the prosperity of the people of Mataram.”

Panembahan Senopati was stuck looking away from the outside nuance, passing through the darkness of the midnight. From distance, it was heard the sound of crickets, all the time.

“Frankly, I don’t want this war to happen as this must victimize people,” said Panembahan Senopati breaking out the silence.

“I also personally agree with you, Your Majesty,” said Ki Gede Panembahan who kept having a seat in a side of the room. In front of him, there was a circle table and two cups of hot ginger juice that still looked hot and smoky.

“Then, what should we do? How can we expand our territorial area without bombarding another kingdom?”

That was the piece of the night conversation between Panembahan Senopati and the main advisor of Mataram Kingdom, Ki Gede Panembahan.

## MATARAM: A PROSPEROUS KINGDOM

The Mataram Kingdom was located at Alas Mentaok, nearby Kotagede. Panembahan Senopati, the king, was known as the wise and fair-minded king. In running the government, all decisions were taken after asking for consideration from the people and also the main advisor. Everything was just fully for the people in the Mataram Kingdom. It was unquestionable that all the people in the Mataram Kingdom put respect to Panembahan Senopati. Also, they always yearned his presence.

The Mataram Kingdom was full of peace and prosperity. In some parts of the kingdom, there were planted such plant life as banyan, *sawo kecil*, and *mimusops elengi*. In the city point of the kingdom, there was a banyan tree which symbolized unity between the people and the king, or the unity between the humankind and Almighty God. Around the kingdom, specifically in the center point of the kingdom, there were *mimusops elengi*, *sawo kecil*, *asem keben* (kind of tamarind plant), and *kepel* (kind of traditional plants in Java) plants.

*Mimusops elengi* plant life symbolized that the king always protected and safeguarded the community. The kind-heartedness of the king, on the other hand, was visualized by *sawo kecil* tree. Further, the tamarind tree manifested a joyfulness. *Keben* tree, meanwhile, signified a peace. The last, *kepel* tree denoted a spirit

of willingness for work. It was almost certain that all the kingdoms throughout Java grew up some trees which, each of those, had a deep meaning. Besides, *gayam* and *kemuning* plants (traditional plants of Java) were also grown up.

The Mataram Kingdom was surrounded by the great wall and trench that functioned as protection for all people in the kingdom from the evilness committed by the outsiders. All the guard stations were located on each side of the kingdom. Very far from the kingdom, there was a very large farmland seen. As far as the eyes can see, paddy was growing up very well and greenly. In the embankment, there were long beans, cassava, and *palawija* (the consumable plants other than rice or paddy). The irrigation and plantation period had been set and measured as accurate as possible so that the farmland looked so fine and green.

The river, as the source of the irrigation, looked so bright. All the people along the river were strongly prohibited to throw away the rubbish into the river that flowed from north to south. They even had a routine tradition to hold a ceremonial ritual for respecting the river, twice a year. They were hand in hand to clean up the river and to reorganize the environment to get it cleaner and prettier.

“Kang (Mr.) Toro, please cut off and neat up the bamboos. Their bottom parts will distract the water flow. And, look! The trunks bow upon the river” commanded Mr. Sastro

“Roger that, Ki (Sir),” answered Kang Toro simply.

“Better we cut off them soon before the bamboos go very low upon the west and reach the water so that they won’t be conquered by fleas,” explained Ki Sastro.

Kang Toro unswervingly got all the young man gathered. By means of a sharp machete, they cut off the *petung* bamboos (a type of bamboos) very carefully as commanded by Ki Sastro.

“Please, take care of the bamboos. We can make use of them to rebuild a bridge in the eastern part of this country,” commanded Ki Sastro.

All the bamboos, then, were cut off into parts. After finished, Toro and all the comrades tied all the bamboos in some bindings. Until then, Ki Sastro looked for the deeper part in the edge of the river.

“Come here. Give me the bamboos.”

“Roger that, Ki Sastro ...”

Not too long after that, Ki Sastro, Toro, and some other young men sank off the bamboos into the most bottom part of the river. To make it firm and irremovable by the flow of the water, they were tied up to the wood pins that had been embed very strongly.

“Let’s wait for about 3 to 6 months later. Afterward, let’s take them away from the river to replace the tattered bridge.”

“I’m sorry, Ki Sastro. Why the bamboos should be sunk off in the river?” asked Tarmin.

“Of course, Tarmin. It is aimed for removing all the latex and making them tougher,” answered Ki Sastro. “After all the bamboos are uplifted from the river, they should be dried for about a week long. The drying process, also, should not be directly sun-radiated,” continued Toro. Tarmin just nodded, attempting to understand what Ki Sastro and Toro explained to him.

The people around there also made use of the river that flowed shingly to take a shower or wash the clothes. For cooking, they made use the water from *belik*. *Belik* was named for water springs that appeared naturally from the interspaces among the stones nearby the river. The clean and clear water, then, was collected into *tempayan* (a jar) and consumed for cooking and drinking.

Therefore, it was completely unquestionable that a crowd of the people, all together, were commonly walking through the steep that led them up to the river. They kept passing over and over again with their jars and buckets full of laundry.

The Mataram Kingdom was so famous for its prosperity that many people attributed the kingdom with a Javanese saying

*gemah ripah loh jinawi* (rich of natural resources). All the people were living peacefully and well-off. In fact, Mataram Kingdom was led by a so-called adorable king, Panembahan Senopati, the leader who was known as tough and handsome. All the people in the Mataram Kingdom always thanked God since all their daily needs were always well guaranteed and they were gifted with peace.

The nuance of peace and security in the kingdom was because of the existence of King Panembahan Senopati, accompanied by his three sons who had a magical power, yet still down to earth. They were Pangeran Purabaya, Raden Kuning, and Raden Kerincing. Also, they were also assisted by the wise advisor, Ki Gede Panembahan. In addition, Mataram Kingdom also had a number of commanders who were very strong and skillful, two of whom were Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Tumenggung Singaranu. Both aforesaid men were the general commander for a war of Mataram Kingdom.





## TERRITORIAL EXPANSION OF PANEMBAHAN SENOPATI FOR THE KINGDOM

At the terrace of Mataram Kingdom, there was seen Panembahan Senopati talking, very seriously, to his three sons; Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, and Raden Kerincing; and also to Ki Gede Panembahan, Tumenggung Singaranu, and Tumenggung Mertoyuda.

“I and Ki Gede Panembahan, a couple days ago, had discussed this planning for territorial expansion for the Mataram Kingdom, which is, of course, just for our people’s prosperity. As far as I’m concerned, we need to seize the territory of *Hutan Kedu* from The Giant Genie Sepanjang. Therefore, I command you to get prepared and go to *Hutan Kedu*,” said Panembahan Senopati.

“But, why should we need to seize the territory of *Hutan Kedu*? Why don’t we seize another territorial area of another kingdom that is wider than that of *Hutan Kedu*?” asked Raden Kerincing.

“That’s true, Your Majesty. By then, we don’t need to build a new environment over there,” Raden Kuning added.

“I’ve been thinking about that very well with Ki Gede Panembahan. By this expansion for the Mataram Kingdom, I don’t want to see many people getting victimized. Therefore, my decision has come to *Hutan Kedu* which is quite close from here.”

“Roger that, Your Majesty. We’re ready for your order,” echoed all the men after receiving the order from the king. Then, all of them was leaving from where they were discussing with Panembahan Senopati.

Three days later, when the sunrise had not come, Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, Raden Kerincing and the entourage, with hundreds of troops from Mataram, Kingdom were leaving the kingdom and heading to the exit gate in the northern side of the kingdom. They were about to execute the king’s order to drive out The Giant Genie Sepanjang who had been taking care of *Hutan Kedu* since many years ago. The entourage spiraled, passing across the western side of Pasar Kotagede. The flags and pennons of the greatness of Mataram Kingdom were waving in the very front row of the entourage. Right at the behind, there was a group of completely-armed troops. Some of them brought up lances, swords, arrows, *keris* (traditional weapon of Java), and other sharp weapons. In behindhand, there was a group of horsemen, complete with the wagons where to save the food supply, maintenance stuff, huge tents, and also substitution weapons.

Taking a look at the entourage from the Mataram Kingdom, people who were still in work stopped their activities and shouted proudly to get all the members of the entourage of the Mataram Kingdom in high spirit.

“Viva King of Mataram! Viva Panembahan Senopati! Viva all the troops of Mataram Kingdom!” shouted the people in the crowd along the way the entourage passed through. All the troops responded all the spirit by a very big smile.

The entourage, about hundreds of people, was led by Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, Raden Krincing, and two well-experienced commanders, Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Tumenggung Singaranu. Tumenggung Mertoyuda rode a white horse, positioning at the most front row of the entourage heading to *Hutan Kedu*. Meanwhile, Tumenggung Singaranu positioned himself at the back row, riding a black horse. He was responsible for observing all the members of the entourage and the terrain situation where they should go through.

Until then, Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, and Raden Krincing were found in the middle of the entourage, riding the purely-white horses. The saddle set on each of the three horses was ornamented by a yellow cloth, along with the emblem of the Mataram Kingdom knitted by using a golden thread.

“We need to be cautious and careful along the journey,” said Pangeran Purbaya to his two younger brothers.

“Sure! We’re not allowed even to be slightly careless, let alone when passing across Krasak River,” added Raden Krincing.

“Calm down! We don’t need to be worried much. Let’s count the mission on Tumenggung Merto Yudha and Singaranu. They have been many times take a lead the troops of Mataram Kingdom, and even they never experience any failure,” replied Raden Kuning, full of belief.

“I think I agree with you. But, however it is, we should keep being cautious, still. The dangers and attacks might come suddenly, whenever and wherever,” Pangeran Purba tried to remind his brothers.

“Alright, brother! We’ll keep being cautious,” replied Raden Kuning and Krincing.

When the sun almost fell down to the west, in a sudden, Tumenggung Merto Yudha got his right hand up. All the troops, altogether, stopped their steps. Three horsemen, wearing a black bandana, spontaneously approached Tumenggung Merto Yudha.

“Please take a look at the situation at the front. Tell me if there’s something suspicious. We almost arrive at Krasak River,” commanded Tumenggung Merto Yudha to the three spy horsemen.

“Roger that, Mr. Commander,” answered the three horsemen in all. They attempted to scatter for observing the situation around as commanded by Tumenggung Merto Yudha. After strongly sure there was nothing to happen, they came back to report what they see to their commander.

“We’ve been walking around and there’s nothing to be worried about Your Majesty,” reported one of the horsemen, wearing the bigger bandana than that of other troops.

“Okay! You, the three, be here! I’ll see Pangeran Purbaya.”

“Roger that, Mr. Commander,” answered all the horsemen excitedly.

The other troops in the entourage were still in their position, no change at all. They were waiting for the next commands. Until then, Tumenggung Mertoyuda approached Pangeran Purbaya.

“My Prince, in a while, the night will come and we must pass across Krasak River. We’d better stay over the night and continue the journey on the following morning when the sunrise comes from the earth.”

“I go along with you, Mr. Commander. That’s all for our safety. But, is it safe for us to build our tents here?”

“I’ve just commanded the spy horsemen to observe the situation in this spot. According to their report, there’s nothing suspicious or threatening,” explained Tumenggunug Mertoyuda.

“Alright, please have your troops to prepare everything to stay over the night, Mr. Commander.”

“Roger that, My Prince.”



In a couple of times, Tumenggung Mertoyuda gave a sign to Tumenggung Singaranu, for talking. After a short discussion between the two, they met the three horsemen who kept guard in the very front row. After discussion on the very crucial issue, they get scattered to build the tents.

All the troops from Mataram were known as skillful and very well-cooperative in teamwork. Before the day went darker, all the tents had been set already. The tents of Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, and Raden Krincing were in the center, surrounded by the tents of the troops of Mataram Kingdom.

“Take some rest, Mr. Mertoyuda. I and some of the troops will keep widely awaking. When it’s midnight, we get in turn to guard.”

“Alright, be cautious and take care of yourself,” said Tumenggung Mertoyuda to Tumenggung Singaranu.

Tumenggung Singaranu was leaving, Afterward. He was walking around the spot where they were staying over the night. After feeling relieved on walking around, Tumenggung Singaranu attempted to examine where Pangeran Purabaya was taking a rest. The night was so quiet. Only the owl’s sound was heard from the distance. Once, it was also heard the sound of wood-fired up, rattling, which broke down the silence. Some rods of wood were

burnt in order to both, lightening the spot of rest and getting the wild animals withdrawn from there.

At midnight, Tumenggung Mertoyuda woke up.

“It’s been enough to have some rest, now your turn to sleep over,” said Tumenggung Mertoyuda to Tumenggung Singaranu. “Have a sleep tight as tomorrow will be relatively harder for us.”

On an upcoming day, when the rooster crowed, all the troops began passing across the wide Krasak River. It was full of rocks from Merapi Mount. When in the middle of the river, Tumenggung Mertoyuda was shocked by a giant snake, very bloodcurdling. The snake came out of the rocks and directly attacked him. His instinct as the commander got him aware of any sudden outbreak or suspicious movement. Spontaneously, he jumped out and stepped his feet on the giant rock in his right side to save his life.

Still shocked, Tumenggung Mertoyuda was aware that there were so many other snakes. Some of the troops were also attacked. Fortunately, all of them were well-trained and high-awareness. They jumped out from one to another rock to withdraw the snakes’ attacks. Spontaneously, they swayed their swords upon them. Weirdly, their swords could not even hurt the snakes of Krasak River. The sharpest points of their swords were as if colliding with a very tough iron, not easily broken. At glance



observing the weird occurrence, Tumenggung Mertoyuda was certain that they were a ‘supernatural’ snakes.

“Stick your swords into the ground first! Then sway it upon the snake!” shouted Tumenggung Mertoyuda simply.

Listening to the order, all the troops altogether stuck their swords into the ground, into the riverbed. Then, they plugged out and unswervingly swayed the swords upon the snakes. Magically, the snakes were easily broken into pieces and disappeared without any traces.

“Those were the supernatural snakes,” explained Tumenggung Mertoyuda.

“Keep on being careful. It’s still way long to go,” Tumenggung Singaranu continued. All the troops were cautious up to reaching out the northern side of Krasak River.

On the fifth day, the entourage arrived at the bordering part of *Hutan Kedu* without any distraction. Tumenggung Mertoyuda got his right hand up very high, the sign that all should stop. Tumenggung Mertoyuda, then, face Pangeran Purbaya.

“My Prince, we’ve arrived at the bordering part of *Hutan Kedu*,” explained Mertoyuda.

“Let’s set our tents out here. We need some rest as we’ve been through such a very long journey,” said Pangeran Purbaya.

*Hutan Kedu*, been in front of their eyes, looked so ghostly. The woods had so many gigantic trees with many branches going over any direction. The size of the stem was as the same as the embracement in twice from the adult man in normal. The roots, somehow, were vining through in among the branches of the gigantic trees. There was also a wild-thorn bush, castle-alike, surrounding *Hutan Kedu* where The Giant Genie Sepanjang was said to live at. People said Genie Sepanjang was the most ruthless giant that had a magical power for shape-shifting. The ghostliness of *Hutan Kedu*, along with the ruthlessness of the genie and its followers, got the people around there afraid of stepping on to enter the woods. They were afraid of becoming the victim of The Giant Genie Sepanjang.

In fact, Genie Sepanjang had two loyal servants, Giant Klowor and Pengung. Even though the former was quite often to sleep, he had a very good skill of smelling so that he could detect the strangers who came to enter *Hutan Kedu*. Meanwhile, Giant Pengung liked to make a chaotic situation as he kept making shouts, laughing aloud, and acting so weirdly. Even so, Giant Pengung was known as having a sharp hearing. He even could hear footsteps of the suspicious strangers around *Hutan Kedu*. No wonder, all the strangers who attempted to go inside the woods were always caught red-handed by the right-hand giants of The Giant Genie Sepanjang. As a consequence, all the strangers were always failed to get escaped securely from there.



Furthermore, people said that the one and only person who could escape from the ghostliness of *Hutan Kedu* was Kyai Kramat, the former spy troop of the Mataram Kingdom who hid himself to the edge of *Hutan Kedu* because of his failure to execute the mandate from Panembahan Senopati. He was feeling ashamed and decided to hide as the commonality.

He intentionally went to *Hutan Kedu* as he was still curious about the fact that no one could escape from *Hutan Kedu* securely. From him, people finally knew the truth that in *Hutan Kedu* there lived many ruthless giants under the control of The Giant Genie Sepanjang, with his two loyal servants, Giant Klowor and Pengung. Also, in the middle of the woods, which was very dark, there were some cliffs that might trap the people only if they were careless.

Pangeran Purbaya was staring at *Hutan Kedu* with his very eyes. It was so thick and scary.

“We’ll separate the troops to keep an eye on *Hutan Kedu*. Some should be here, and the others will follow me to get into the woods and catch out Genie Sepanjang,” said Pangeran Purbaya to Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Singaranu.

Pangeran Purbaya, Raden Kuning, Raden Krincing, Tumenggung Mertoyuda, Tumenggung Singaranu, the spy horsemen, and all the troops strongly and bravely began to get into *Hutan Kedu*.

In just a day in the woods, all the troops of Mataram Kingdom had been problematic with the herd of giants under the control of Giant Klowor and Pengung who had known their presence just with a sense of hearing and smelling they owned. But, the two giants could not report about the occurrence as The Giant Genie Sepanjang was still hunting at another woods in Merbabu Mount.

The war between the giants and the troops of Mataram Kingdom happened was very epic and inevitable. The skillfulness and toughness of the troops of Mataram Kingdom eventually got hundreds of the giants beaten up. Then, they were arrested and prisoned in the cave. The war was happening for three days long. Tumenggung Mertoyuda fought against Giant Klowor, while Tumenggung Singaranu against Giant Pengung. On the third day, the right-hand giants of The Giant Genie Sepanjang got trapped into the brainy trick made by the well-experienced commanders of Mataram Kingdom. Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Singaranu slowly drove their foes away to the edge of the cliff. In the evening, when the two giants could not see very clearly, Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Singaranu conquered them with their very threatening movement of the fight. Both the giants attempted to withdraw with very hard effort, then slipped out into the cliff.

When coming back from hunting at Merbabu Mount, The Genie Sepanjang felt wonder why *Hutan Kedu* looked very quiet.

He was more shocked when he arrived at his palace, Kala Bongsor, where he and his comrades lived. He even did not find the two giants, Klowor and Pengung, who used to guard in front. He even did a double take when he found his palace seriously got damaged.

“Arrrrgh ... Aaargh ... Who dares to get my palace damaged very seriously,” shouted The Genie Sepanjang very loudly, “Come on, get out! Fight me, King of *Hutan Kedu*!”

Pangeran Purabaya, who attempted to guard around the palace Kala Bongsor, heard the voice of the genie and tried to get closer to him soon.

“Oh, it’s you The Genie Sepanjang, the king of *Hutan Kedu*, ruthless, and always haunting people of Mataram,” said Pangeran Purbaya when standing up right in front of the Genie Sepanjang.

“Hmmm .... Hmmm. Who are you a little human? How dare you are to get into my palace!”

“I’m Pangeran Purbaya, from the Mataram Kingdom. I want you to leave out *Hutan Kedu*, right now!”

Listening to Pangeran Purbaya, The Genie Sepanjang felt offended. He unswervingly conquered Pangeran Purbaya. From the beginning, the fight was seen out by hundreds of the troops surrounding *Hutan Kedu*. Nothing epic was happening during the

fight. The fight became more poignant when both of them began showing off their hazardous movements in a fight. As none of them won, they kept trying to make use of their magical powers so as to drive the fight more invisible for they moved very fast. At one time, an explosion boomed along with the falling down of Genie Sepanjang on the ground. Even though he looked harmful, the genie got up soon and escaped fast-lightning.

“I’ll take a revenge for this loss. I’ll come someday!” It was clearly heard and loud enough, fossilizing in the mind of Pangeran Purbaya.

## **THE FIRST MEETING OF RADEN KUNING AND RARA RAMBAT**

Upon the demand of Pangeran Purbaya, the handsome and tough Raden Kuning went to find and catch out The Giant Genie Sepanjang into the woods. Meanwhile, Pangeran Purbaya, along with some of the troops went back to the edge side of *Hutan Kedu*.

During the expedition in woods, Raden Kuning felt that he had seen a shadow of The Giant Genie Sepanjang who kept running away in front of him. The further he walked through the woods, the more blurred the shadow was, jumping out from tree to tree. In a few of time later, Raden Kuning, who had been well-trained to be the brave man, could not spot the shadow anymore – he thought that it was the shadow of Genie Sepanjang.

“Hmm, where is he hiding?” asked Raden Kuning by heart while looking around where he was. Tens of the troops, guarding Raden Kuning silently, could not spot where The Giant Genie Sepanjang was as well. Raden Kuning, then, continued the journey.

After having a couple of meters, he slightly heard the voice of the lady singing. The voice sounded very soft and nice to listen.

“Stop here! I myself will find out the voice. Be cautious, and don’t be very far from me,” commanded Raden Kuning.



“Alright, Your Majesty. We’re going to keep being cautious.”

Carefully, Raden Kuning tried to seek the voice. The closer the voice was heard, the prettier the voice was to him. The lady was singing *asmaradhana* song (cultural song in Java) while picking flowers.

*Aja turu sore kaki* (Don’t sleep too early!)

*Ana Dewa nganglang jagad* (There’s God keeping out the universe)

*Nyangking bokor kencana* (Carrying out His golden vase)

*Isine donga tetulak* (Containing prayers for any dangers)

*Sangdhang kelawan pangan* (Clothes and foods)

*Yaiku bageyanipun* (Which were all for)

*Wong melek sabar narima* (Those who like to be night-awaken, patient, and thankful)

“Who is the lady brave enough to be in the scary woods at the very midnight like this one?” The commonality or supernatural creature?” asked Raden Kuning by heart. He got much more curious upon the lady due to her bravery to be in the woods alone at the midnight.

When arriving at the beneath of the shady tree, Raden Kuning saw the beautiful lady who was picking up the wildlife flowers. Unintentionally, Raden Kuning stepped on the very dried tree branches so as to make a sound that attracted the lady. Suddenly, the lady looked so nervously afraid of his presence.

“Mmmmm... Who are you?” asked the lady simply with shivering voice.

“Don’t be afraid. I’m Raden Kuning from Mataram.”

“But, why do you come here? This is a bloodcurdling woods,” explained to the lady while trying to get braver.

“I’m so sorry. I don’t mean to get you uncomfortable,” answered Raden Kuning politely. “My presence here was because of your nice voice when singing. Can I get to know you?” said Raden Kuning. In a sudden, the lady lowered her head, feeling quite shy.

“I’m Rambat. I live here with my parents, Kyai Kramat and Nyai Bogem at the shack behind the bush,” explained Rambat while pointing out the location of where she was living at.



“Can I stop by your home just for a short rest?”

“I feel ashamed as ours is not that inhabitable for the one like you, Raden.”

Shortly after that, Rara Rambat and Raden Kuning arrived at the shack of Kyai Kramat's. At that time, Kyai Kramat and Nyai Bogem, gathering in front of their home, greeted and welcome Raden Kuning. From the outfit he wore, they both know very well that their guess was one of the stakeholders in the Mataram Kingdom. Then, they got to know each other. However, Kyai Kramat still kept his identity secret, as the former spy man of Mataram Kingdom. When the night got darker, Raden Kuning asked permission to leave. Around 30 footsteps long from the shack of Kyai Kramat's, all the troops silently came after Raden Kuning and kept him guarded to rejoin them, leaving Kyai Kramat's home. In a so-called hidden spot around, Raden Kuning commanded his troops to set the tents for rest before continuing to catch out The Giant Genie Sepanjang.

In the following day, Raden Kuning had a visit to Kyai Kramat's home. Almost the entire of the night could not he sleep tightly because of being too curious.

How could be possible Kyai Kramat and Nyai Bogem living within *Hutan Kedu* safely and comfortably, as he knew that none

of the people could be safe after entering the woods? His curiosity did push him to get into a sudden rendezvous with Kyai Kramat.

“I heard that this forest was very bloodcurdling, and none of the people coming into it could securely escape,” said Raden Kuning when talking to Kyai Kramat in the spacy enough shack. As the parent and the former of the spy man, Kyai Kramat could predict to what extent Raden Kuning’s talk was about.

“I’m sorry, Your Majesty, all happened by accident...,” explained Kyai Kramat just simply.

“It’s impossible, Kyai. All the giants of *Hutan Kedu* are known as so ruthless that they never let anyone escape from their territory. There must be something that makes them allow you and Nyai Bogem to live over here. Come on! Be honest, Kyai ...”

At that time, Kyai Keramat was really under pressure of Raden Kuning’s list of questions. He was such a clever man that he could get Kyai Keramat to tell him the truth.

“I’m sorry, Your Majesty. Once upon a time, I ever went to get into *Hutan Kedu* and was cast out by Giant Pengung. We fought each other, by our magical power. Because of Almighty God, the Lord of universe and life, I finally succeeded to beaten up Giant Pengung. By then, I have been gifted a spot to live at here. Furthermore, to get the giants stopped attacking us, there are engraved a *kala* sign on our shack and the trees around, which

denoted that we are part of them, the giants of *Hutan Kedu*,” explained Kyai Keramat.

Raden Kuning nodded. He recalled when he first met Rara Rambat beneath of the giant tree. There was a *kala* sign on it. Also, he found the similar sign on the shack’s door, so that everyone could see it obviously.

“I now understand, Kyai. You must be more than a commonality. You must have mastered so many things that you could overpower Giant Pengung.”

Kyai Keramat was in silence for a couple minutes of time. At the same occasion, Nyai Bogem came into the talk and delivered them a drink. Kyai Keramat and Nyai Bogem were staring at each other in the silence. The old lady had a bit heard the main idea of their talk, between his husband and Raden Kuning.

Nyai Bogem recalled how epic the war was between his husband, Kyai Keramat and Giant Pengung in the middle of *Hutan Kedu* when they attempted to get into the territorial area of The Giant Genie Sepanjang.

“Aaaaaaargh ... Aaaaaargh, where do you want to run away the commonalities? Give up to me so I won’t hurt you two,” persuaded Giant Pengung.

“What do you mean? Give up? I’m not afraid of you, at all, even though your bulk is so gargantuan and your face is scary.”

“Haha ...haha ...haha, you’re such a strong man. You, in fact, have a great enough bravery to fight with me. All this time, people must fearfully run away after encountering me.”

“Hmm ... What should I be afraid of from your nasty bulk and face?”

“Aaaaargh ... How dare you are to disgrace me, commonalty!”

“I don’t mean to disgrace you. That’s the fact that you are a nasty giant.”

“Goddamn it! Before I murder you and your wife, tell me who you are! What makes you visit *Hutan Kedu*? This is fully the territory of The Giant Genie Sepanjang, our king.”

“I don’t even care about your king. I’m Kyai Kramat and this is my wife, Nyai Bogem. We live in the bordering part of the woods and intentionally get into *Hutan Kedu* to build a new home for a new life.”

“This woods is just only for the giants, not for foolish humankind like you and your wife. “

“What about if I force myself to live here? What will you do?”

“I won’t let even anyone get here for any living chance.”

“Hemm. Alright! If so, there’s no option. We need to get in a fight, then.”

“You are strongly brave, I think!”

“I’m never afraid of anyone in life since Almighty God will always protect me.”

Shortly after, the epic war was happening and got many trees fallen down messily on the ground, which was caused by the anger of Pengung since he could not catch out Kyai Kramat.

With a very skillful movement, Kyai Kramat succeeded to avoid every single assault from Giant Pengung. He jumped out, from tree to tree, and hid from the trees falling down upon him. Somehow, he was hiding behind the giant stone.

“Aaaargh ... Aaaargh... You won’t be able to quit, foolish man!

Giant Pengung, then, broke apart the big branches and throw them to Kyai Kramat. With his magical power, Giant Pengung successfully set out the branches into the ground and got Kyai Kramat trapped like in the prison.

“Kyai Kramat was taken by surprise. He did not think that such assault and the prison from the huge branches could get him trapped and hard to escape.



“Give up, dummy man! You’ve been trapped very compactly. Never can you run away any longer.”

Kyai Kramat was aware that he could not escape from Pengung’s trap.

“Hmmm, I hope Almighty God will save and protect me,” Kyai Kramat prayed. He, then, started squaring off to get into a duel with the Giant Pengung.

“What do you think, dummy? Will you give up now?”

“If you are strong enough, come into this trap you yourself make!”

“I will be over there to catch you out, surely ha ... ha ...ha”

Kyai Kramat looked calming down himself when the giant approached to get into the trap. He united all his mind and prayer, with his mouth murmuring to read out *aji penatasan* spell he had already learned when he was still a spy man of Mataram Kingdom. Shortly after, Giant Pengung assaulted Kyai Kramat insanelly. He took all his effort and magical power to conquer Kyai Kramat who had insulted him. Weirdly, Kyai Kramat did not attempt to save himself from the deadly attack of Giant Pengung. Kyai Kramat just used one hand and one leg to respond every single assault made by Giant Pengung. He stared at the

giant sharply and tried to fight against him in a very close distance.

“Come on, nasty giant, get all you have out to kill me. I won’t quit.”

Listening to the mockery, Giant Pengung was of the bigger temptation to beat up Kyai Kramat. He assaulted more frequently.

Until then, Kyai Kramat always fended out all the assaults, while continuing to read out the spell. No move even he made just to avoid the assault.

Giant Pengung wondered about the way how Kyai Kramat responded to him. Astonishingly, he felt his power got lower and had no power.

“Oh, what is happening to me? Why did suddenly I get weakened?” Giant Pengung said by heart.

“Why do you stop assaulting me, the nasty giant?”

“What have you done, the fool man? I felt losing much of my power.”

“That’s the pint. Don’t ever judge something by cover, thinking that none of people could get you weakened.”

“What have you done?”

“Giant Pengung, you’re not only about to lose your energy, but also your power.”

Giant Pengung was shocked. He attempted to get up and had a try his magical power. But, everything was useless since his bulk was harmful.

“Oh, I’m just now realized that now you’ve mastered *penatasan* power. No wonder if you could be safe from all my assaults,” said Giant Pengung in annoyance.

“You’re right, the nasty giant. All the energy and power of yours have been transferred into mine every time I fend away all your assaults. Now, you’re just a helpless and weak giant. If there’s a buffalo striking you out, you must get beaten.”

“Oh. Nooooo!”

“Now, I and my wife will be leaving.”

“Don’t leave me here, Kyai Kramat. Please forgive me and return all my energy and power.”

“I won’t do that if you don’t fulfill my demand to you, the nasty giant.”

“Alright, Kyai. Let me know what you demand me.”

“I and my wife would like to be here, at *Hutan Kedu*, securely and safely. I don’t want any of the giants to distract our life.”

“I’ll give you a home to live for you, Kyai Kramat. I promise there won’t be any of the giants going to sidetrack you.”

“I also want my descendants to get away from any disturbance as well.”

“I’ll also guarantee that all of your families would be safe in *Hutan Kedu*.

“Okay. I’ll return all your energy and power. I hope you don’t misuse the power to harm people.”

Giant Pengung was remained silent and nodded shortly after, understanding what was said to him by Kyai Kramat.

Afterward, Kyai Kramat and Giant Pengung were sitting down together, crossing their legs and facing each other. Kyai Kramat transferred all the energy and power into the bulk of Giant Pengung to return all of his energy and power.

## **THE SHAPE-SHIFTING OF THE GIANT GENIE SEPANJANG**

The presence of Raden Kuning in the hidden area around Kyai Kramat's home was found out by Genie Sepanjang who was still improving all his power at Merbabu Mount. He was strongly resentful because his territorial area, *Hutan Kedu*, and his palace Kala Bongsor were messed up by the troops from the Mataram Kingdom. His anger was getting bigger after knowing the fact that Raden Kuning was the younger brother of Pangeran Purbaya. The Giant Genie Sepanjang tried to find out a solution to take a revenge upon his loss to the troops of Mataram Kingdom. He felt doubtful to directly assaulted Raden Kuning as he was certainly guarded by all his selected troops. Eventually, he found a way to overpower all the Mataram's troops. By all his magical power, Genie Sepanjang shape-shifted to be a commonality, named as Sonta.

With an alibi to look for a job, Sonta came to Kyai Kramat's home. Looking at the young man with rag clothes, Kyai Kramat asked, "Who are you and what makes you come here?"

"I'm commonly named as Sonta, coming from the Piedmont of Mount Merbabu. There was a disaster that had just happened so that all the livestock and plants of ours were damaged seriously.



Therefore, here I mean to look for a job, Kyai,” begged Sonta sadly.

“Don’t you have any family or friend?” asked Kyai Keramat.

“I’m living alone by myself with the very indefinite destiny, having rag clothes. To eat is also something unclear to me.”

“Why do you want to work here?”

“I want to submit all the willing, get a place to live, and get enough of food to eat so that I’ll no longer feel starving.”

“But, I don’t pay you off by money.”

“I’ll be gladly thankful if I’m accepted to have a work here.”

“Alright! Give me time to discuss it with my wife.”

“I’ll be waiting for your decision, Kyai,”

Kyai Keramat took a pity after listening to the Sonta’s story. After his wife agreed to him, he received Sonta for work.”

“I’ll give you a job as long as you are honest and willing to do anything,” said Kyai Keramat.

“I note that, Kyai.”

Sonta felt that his planning to murder Pangeran Purbaya was running smoothly. He was very diligent to look for wood for Nyai

Bogem to cook. While looking for wood, he peeped where Raden Kuning was staying over with his troops.

Seven days had passed through, and Kyai Kramat felt so happy to what Sonta was doing all the time. Kyai Kramat and Nyai Bogem also witnessed that Raden Kuning also accept Sonta very well.

“The fact says that Sonta was diligent to work,” said Kyai Kramat to Nyai Bogem.

“Yes, love. Whatever it is, he’s shown keen on doing that, even without any complaints,” explained Nyai Bogem.

“I want him, someday, to get our home repaired so it can be more inhabitable.”

“That’s a good plan, anyway. I totally agree with you.” Nyai Bogem, then, left to the kitchen.

Shortly after, Sonta began running his mission. Realizing that it was only himself remaining alone since his two comrades, Giang Pengung and Klowor, had been arrested, Sonta attempted to murder the troops of the Mataram Kingdom little by little. This trick was committed to attracting Pangeran Purbaya outright, the one he hated the most for he had ruined *Hutan Kedu* and Kala Bongsor palace.

At the day when it was destined, Sonta shape-shifted himself to be a deer and walked around where Raden Kuning and tens of his



troops were staying over. Knowing that there was a deer in front of them, some of the troops were very eager to kill it out. Four of them brought up their bows, arrows, lance, and rope. They began peeping and released their arrows to the walking deer. Mocking-like, the deer suddenly jump out to the thick bush so that all the arrows missed the target. The other troops soon released their lance into the bush. In fact, the deer had been very far away from the bush. Sonta, in the shape of the deer, kept attracting the troops so that they followed him.

“Come on! Follow me. Let’s have a party,” said Sonta by heart.

They were so lulled that they kept following wherever the deer moved. They were not aware that they had been very distant, closer to the cliff. Arriving at the edge of the quiet and a bit dark cliff, without any shine of the sun because of the very thick leaves around, Sonta got himself shape-shifted to be a giant snake that suddenly ripped apart the four troops of the Mataram Kingdom, who had followed him, and threw them away into the cliff.

Getting a shocking assault, all those troops remained powerless. They could not make any effort to attack him on and on. Suddenly, they fell that their bodies were thrown away, like flying through the wind, into the very deep and dark cliff.

After all the four men were gone mysteriously, Raden Kuning commanded the guard-men to get in a compact formation and surfed through *Hutan Kedu* to get all of them back.

“I feel there’s something wrong just recently. Some of the troops have been gone mysteriously. We need to be more cautious.”

“Roger that, Your Majesty!” answered the troops altogether while stepping along the steep.

Knowing that the troops were separated into some different division to spread throughout the woods, Sonta was running his plan, again. He approached the group of the troops who surfed the northern part and told them that he had found the missing men. Sonta guided the troops to the cliff. Again, with all his magical power, Sonta could trick the five Mataram men to get into the cliff.

In the next days, the number of the troops of Mataram Kingdom lowered down, on and on. Raden Kuning felt anxious about the issue. He, then, called upon one of his troops.

“Ki Dhanu, what should we do to deal with this kind of situation?”

“Yes, Your Majesty. There’ve been so many of our troops losing mysteriously. I’m afraid that our power is getting low. Perhaps, we’d better tell this to Our Majesty, The King.”

“Ki Dhanu, please meet Pangeran Purbaya. Ask him to reconsider about what we should do as we know that there are so many troops gone mysteriously,” commanded Raden Kuning.

“Roger that, Your Majesty,” answered Ki Dhanu and directly rode his horse, heading to the south for meeting Pangeran Purbaya at the bordering area of *Hutan Kedu*. Pangeran Purbaya, furthermore, welcomed the sudden arrival of Ki Dhanu’s.

“What’s wrong, Ki Dhanu? It looks like you’re rushing when riding you’re a horse, very fast,” asked Pangeran Purbaya.

“Excuse me, Your Majesty. I’m mandated by Raden Kuning to tell you a horrible news,” explained Ki Dhanu.

“Come on! Go tell me each detail of what happens to Raden Kuning. “

Pangeran Purbaya was listening carefully to Ki Dhanu telling him about a hard situation Raden Kuning should face with the troops. Afterward, he commanded Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Raden Krincing to meet their father, Panembahan Senopati. Both were commanded to ask for clarification if they were to keep fighting with the limited number of troops, who mysteriously lost.

The king, then, called upon his main advisor, Ki Gede Panembahan about what to do. Besides, Tumenggung Mertoyuda was also contributed to the discussion.

“Excuse me, Sir. I think all that had been happening was committed by the Genie Sepanjajng who turned out himself to be a young man, called Sonta. It would be better if Pangeran Purbaya and all the troops of Mataram get into Raden Kuning to conquer Genie Sepanjang,” explained Ki Gede Panembahan, known as excellent to predict and read out the situation.

## THE FIGHT BETWEEN PANGERAN PURBAYA AND THE GIANT GENIE SEPANJANG

Panembahan Senopati commanded Tumenggung Mertoyuda to come back to *Hutan Kedu* soon and tell what they have discussed to Pangeran Purbaya. Pangeran Purbaya could not help feeling furious after Tumenggung Metoyuda told him about the truth. He gathered all the troops to get around *Hutan Kedu* and joined Raden Kuning entourage.

Aware that his pretending was detected and so many of the troops came into the woods, Sonta escaped from Kyai Kranat's home. Pangeran Purbaya did not even give up. He kept chasing out Sonta who was identified escaping to the northern side. Pangeran Purbaya asked his troops to outflank tightly *Hutan Kedu*, like a perfect circle. Obviously, Sonta could not escape from the encirclement of Mataram's troops.

“Where do you want to escape, Sonta? I know that you're actually the sly Genie Sepanjang, murdering the troops little by little,” said Pangeran Purbaya when directly facing Sonta.

At glance, Sonta turned out to be the petrifying Genie Sepanjang.

“You're truly smart, Pangeran Purbaya. Yes, I'd been deceiving your troops. They had no self-awareness, daring to ruin my territory. That's the time I should take revenge upon them.”

After finishing his statement, the Genie Sepanjang directly stroked out Pangeran Purbaya. The fight between them was very epic. The Genie Sepanjang succeeded in improving his magical power when escaping to the slope of Mount Merbabu. They competed for each other their magical power, with a hazardous spell and movement in a fight.

At one time, the Genie Sepanjang stood up firmly with his very strong legs, perfectly squaring off. His bulk was getting bigger. He was rubbing his hands until the smoke came out of them. When his hands were directed to Pangeran Purbaya, fireballs came out of his hands of Genie Sepanjang's. Pangeran Purbaya, meanwhile, kept withdrawing. Many trees were burnt by the fire from Genie Sepanjang. Until then, the troops of Mataram Kingdom kept encircling while finding out the safest spot to hide from the fireballs.

“Ha ... ha ... ha ... Where will you escape, Purbaya? You cannot leave away from me!” shouted Genie Sepanjang arrogantly. “Now feel the power of *cakra geni* (fireball-like thing) ...” The Genie Sepanjang, then, swayed both his hands. His hands were rolling over rapidly and released fireballs continually, swooping down Pangeran Purbaya.

Pangeran Purbaya, swiftly, withdrew the fireballs which came unstoppably. He jumped out to the back the giant rocks. Fast-lightening, he held a grasp of soil and started meditating. Genie

Sepanjang kept assaulting wildly, storming out the rocks where Pangeran Purbaya was hiding with his fireballs. Shortly after, the huge rock was ruined entirely, but Pangeran Purabaya was not found over there.

“Ha ... ha ... ha ... Finally, you’re gone with all the rocks. Ha ... ha ... ha ... who’s next?” shouted Genie Sepanjang gladly since he thought that Pangeran Purbaya was beaten up. His laughter was jarring repeatedly, breaking down the silence in *Hutan Kedu*.

“Don’t be that happy, Genie Sepanjang! I’m here.”

Genie Sepanjang was very shocked after listening to the voice of Pangeran Purbaya who suddenly came out of the back. Without any doubt, he turned around his bulk and continued assaulting Pangeran Purbaya with the fireballs, which recurrently came out of his hands. However, whenever the fireballs were directed to Pangeran Purbaya, none of which was successful to touch and harm him. Instead, all the fireballs burnt out the trees around Pangeran Purbaya. Along with the assault, Pangeran Purbaya had, suddenly, been in another side. That kept going on like that. Even when the fireballs came to him, he disappeared. Eventually, Genie Sepanjang felt annoyed as none of his assaults harmed Pangeran Purbaya, who made use of his magical power, named as *panglimun raga* (the power to get disappeared and hard to see).

When Pangeran Purbaya knew that Genie Sepanjang was tired of assaulting, swiftly, he jumped out and grabbed out the dangling roots of the gigantic trees. By then, he tied down the giant very tightly until he could not even move.

“Forgive me, Pangeran Purbaya. Don’t hurt me. I confess my loss to you,” said Genie Speanjang helplessly.





“Okay, I won’t do anything to you, let alone, you’ve been powerless. I just have one request for you, which is that you need to acknowledge my lordship in *Hutan Kedu*. Don’t ever bother my people!” explained Pangeran Purbaya.

“I do confess your lordship and power here, Pangeran Purbaya. Since today, I hand *Hutan Kedu* in you and all the people of Mataram.

“All you’ve uttered are heard by all my troops.”

“I know, Pangeran Purbaya. I give all these away.”

Shortly after, Pangeran Purbaya moved his sight upon Tumenggung Mertoyuda and Singaranu.

“Please, move Genie Sepanjang to a very distant location from here,” commanded Pangeran Purbaya.

“Roger that, Your Majesty. We will.”

Both the commanders of Mataram Kingdom brought the genie away and get him into a cave around Merbabu Mount. After all this time, Mataram Kingdom was getting wider and wider. *Hutan Kedu* was functioned as an area to grow up plants for the prosperity of Mataram community.

People said, the encirclement that was committed by Mataram’s troops upon Genie Sepanjang, that felt and looked so tightly, was

known as *keprung gelang* (bracelet-like encirclement). It meant that the power of the encirclement looked very tight as the same as that of the bracelet. By then, because of that legend, the area where the encirclement was happening was named as Magelang.

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