

Women And Boat Rock Art : Maritime Route in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia

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ABSTRACT

This study is a preliminary study to reveal the life of archipelagic humans in Indonesia based on rock image evidence. One of the factors in revealing the life of archipelagic humans is seeing the maritime routes of prehistoric humans in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia. The problem in this paper is how to compare maritime routes in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia based on the motifs of women's rock images and boats found in prehistoric sites in the area. The purpose of this study was to provide important information to archaeologists regarding the comparison of maritime routes in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia based on the motifs of women and boats rock images at prehistoric sites in the region. In addition, to find out the comparison of maritime routes between these prehistoric sites in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia. The research method uses an ethnographic and archaeological approach with survey data collection techniques, literature studies, and interviews. The results show that maritime routes in the Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia are classified into 2 (two) route areas, namely 1) trade routes as evidenced by the findings of rock drawings of various types of complex boats. The types of boats intended for long and long trips, as well as the types of loaded boats. Then the context of women's rock images shows more expressions of women's role and function activities in the economy. 2) a stopover route, evidenced by the finding of a simple rock type boat, namely a semang boat or a canoe. In this route, the expression of women's rock images is more of an activity of daily needs.

Keywords: *Rock and boat figure, comparative studies, maritime routes, trade and transit, Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia.*

1. INTRODUCTION

Geographically, Indonesia in Southeast Asia has become a central point in the distribution of modern humans to the early Holocene, with the crossing route still using the Birdsell colonization route. Even some studies have tried to reconstruct the route with supporting evidence of human dispersal at that time (Kealy et al., 2016, 2017, 2018). Especially for the Maluku Islands, Indonesia, the Birdsell colonization route is divided into 2 (two) routes, namely the North and South routes. The results of research on rock images in the Maluku Islands, Indonesia are currently concentrated in the Maluku Islands (southern part) with the character of an archipelago of small and large islands stretching horizontally. The archipelago cluster of large and small islands is separated by the Banda Sea

(southern part) and Seram Sea (northern part) (Wattimena et al., 2020) (Oktaviana et al., 2018) (Shimona Kealy, 2018) (Ballard, 1988). ; Matthew Springs, 2006).

One of the evidence supporting the distribution of humans in Indonesia is the culture of drawing (rock drawings). This culture has existed in Indonesia since at least 50,000 years old on the island of Kalimantan, then Sulawesi Island with a minimum date of 45,000 years old with figurative handprints and hunting and gathering activities (Aubert et al., 2014; Brumm et al., 2017, 2021). Further to eastern Indonesia, the Maluku Islands region has not identified the date of the drawing culture, but from the results of research that has been carried out with several figure images it is reported that the date is around 2500 years old in line with the Austronesian Painting Tradition (APT) (S. O'Connor et al., 2018).

Information on images of women's rock and boats in the context of maritime (migration) routes is still minimal, so this paper provides a comparative picture of maritime routes (migration) in the Maluku Islands, Indonesia based on the figures of women and boats. Given the broad scope of the discussion, the scope of the discussion in the Southeast Maluku region includes prehistoric rock image sites on Kisar Island and Kaimear Island. The reasons for these two island locations are discussed with the aim of providing important information to archeology regarding the reconstruction of human maritime (migration) routes in the Southeastern part of the Maluku Islands, Indonesia based on rock drawings.

2. METHOD

The research method uses an ethnoarcheological approach, where archaeological data and sociological anthropology are used to examine the problem in question. data collection techniques to explore these problems by using interview techniques conducted to several key informants who are considered capable of providing information.

Survey technique; conducted from 2015 to 2021 on Kisar Island and Kaimear Island. And observation data collection techniques; complete identification of the motifs on the site and grouped to facilitate analysis.

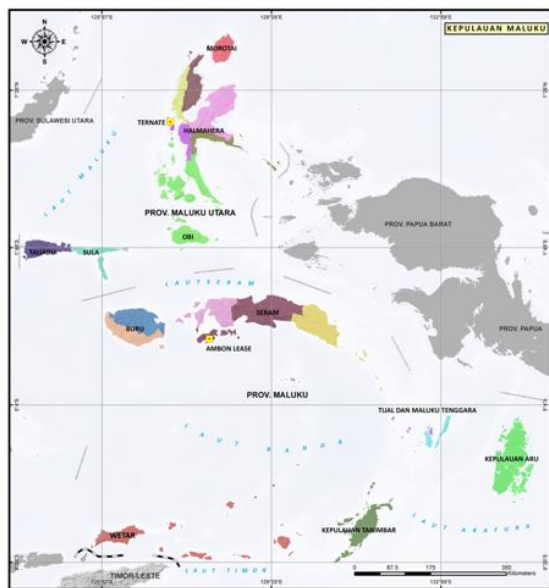


Figure 1 Map of research locations (Blue dots) in Southeast Maluku Islands, Maluku Province.

The issue of boats in historical, cultural and archaeological research has been discussed from various perspectives with the view and constellation of research questions, especially the prehistoric archeology of rock images (Connor et al., 2020; Horridge, 2015; Lape et al., 2007; Liebner, 2005; Lucas Wattimena, Andrew Huwae, 2014; Lucas Wattimena, Marlyn J Salhuteru, Carolina Johanis, 2018; Oktaviana et al., 2018;

Simanjuntak, 2015; Umar, 1998; Wakim, 2015; Wattimena, 2017; Wattimena et al., 2020; Wattimena, 2016d). The discussion about boats in the archaeological study of rock drawings by Peter Lape provides the types of boats in Timor as an illustration of the initial information foundation related to maritime Southeast Asia (Lape et al., 2007). Then the picture of the rock of a boat in Indonesia by Adhi is discussed regarding the image of moving a boat and the context of the hand drawing (Oktaviana, 2018). While rock images of female figures in Indonesia are still minimal, the last one was by Sue regarding dancing figures and traditions in Heresorot Entapa Kisar with sites in East Timor (S. O'Connor et al., 2018). In addition, Sue also divided the group of images on Kisar Island into 3 groups, one of which was a group of small figurative motifs including humans, animals, boats and material cultural objects (Connor et al., 2020).

2.1 Women and boat figure in Kisar Island, Southwest Moluccas

Pictures of boats and women on Kisar Island were recorded and recorded on 6 (six) boat image sites and 4 (four) women's image sites. The images are scattered in the western and eastern parts of Kisar Island, with the highest concentration in the western part.

Table 1 Distribution of rock images with boat motifs and women on Kisar Island, Southwest Maluku.

No.	Site	Type Of Motif	
		Boat	Women
1.	Her sor sorot	√	√
2.	Here Sorot Entapa	√	
3.	Herku	√	√
4.	Kulwasuru	√	
5.	Lenhor horok	√	
6.	Wakurai	√	
7.	Irmula		√
8.	Salpuru		√

The picture of a boat on Kisar Island, Southwest Maluku is depicted very simply, at a height of a cave and a niche 3 meters from the floor at the highest point and 1.5 meters at the lowest point. The whole picture of the boat is red. The types of boats on the Kisar Island site are classified into 3 types, namely 1) the type of

passenger boat. 2) The boat uses a semang or outrigger. 3) The boat uses sails.



Figure 2 Picture of a boat rock on Kisar Island, Southwest Maluku, Maluku Province. (Photo Source: Doc, Balar Maluku, 2015-2019).

The picture of the boat (a) is depicted with 4 (four) human passengers, and does not use sails and boats. Humans in boats are also depicted as heads with parallel ovals. In the following pictures (b) and (c) the shape of the boat is not very clearly depicted, but from the curve of the line it is estimated that it will describe the boat. in Figure (c) is pressed like a boat with a striped engraving. In contrast to pictures (d) (e) and (f) the shape of the boat is the same, namely using a sail and a boat and having 1 (one) person on board. The screen is drawn as a triangle and the land is drawn as a straight line. The thickness of the line drawing is under 1 centimeter, with the size of the boat drawing using a scale of 10 centimeters. Figure (f) is depicted very simply with straight lines forming a semi-circle with a human figure above the line, like a boat with human passengers. The type of boat that uses a spear or outrigger on both sides of the boat is only one picture.

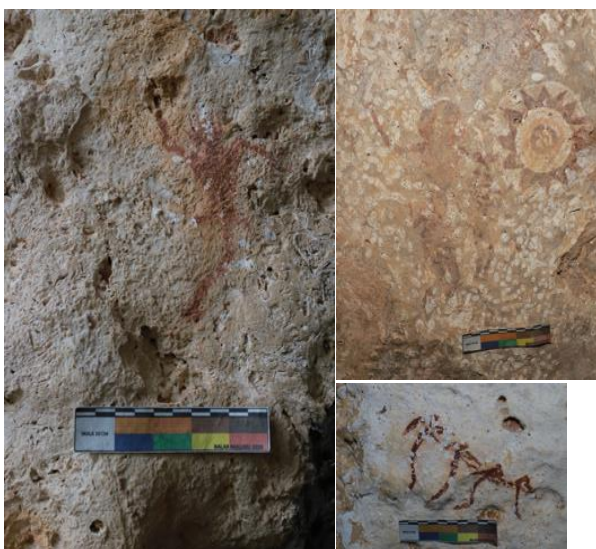


Figure 3 Women's rock art on Kisar Island, Southwest Maluku, Maluku Province. (Photo Source: Doc, Balar Maluku, 2015-2019).

Pictures of women at the Kisar Island site, Southwest Maluku Maluku Province, were found at 4 (four) sites, including a) Her Sor Sorot site, b) Herku, c) Irmula and d) Salpuru. The distribution of these sites can be found in the western part of Kisar Island. The condition of women's rock images is described in various types, including 1) the type of dancing woman (S. O'Connor et al., 2018). 2) Women with traditional traditions or religious activities (Wattimena in press 2021). The location of the female characters is more dominant in the cape, where access is somewhat difficult to reach, because it is located in alcoves and caves with a height of less than 10 meters from the ground.

2.2 Women and boat figure in Kaimear Island, Kei Archipelago

Images of women and boats at Kel lein Site, Kaimear Island, Kei Islands are concentrated in panels 1, 2, 4, 5 and 6 of 7 panels used to facilitate identification methods. The images of women concentrate on the even panels, namely 2,4 and 6, while the images of boats in all panels are mentioned. The height of the images of boats and women at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island in a horizontally parallel position with a distance from the floor surface of the alcove is 2 centimeters.

The results show that the type of boat at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island is relatively simple. Figure 3 (a-b) depicts a straight line forming the bottom of the boat, with an anchor at the back end of the boat. depicted by a layer of straight lines as many as 3 layered lines of the same size and symmetrical (line thickness below 2 centimeters). In addition, there are dots at the top following the shape of the patterned line. The boat in Figure 3 (c-d) is depicted as very worthy of a boat, because the structure of the boat can be seen very clearly. In addition, the back of the boat is a little less clear, like less than 2 people, while at the front of the boat a square box is depicted like a house or a pile of cargo. It looks very interesting from the perspective of the a-d boat image because the front of the boat is pointing towards the site's position. At the front of the boat slightly raised as if passing by the ocean waves. Significant differences in these two types of boats are in the form depicted and even in their function. It is also different in Figure 3 (f-d) the type of simple boat with a solid red color throughout the image. So far on the Kel Lein site, Kaimear Island, only a full color image has been found. The shape of the boat is like a canoe and does not use outriggers or semang on both sides of the boat. The shape of the boat is symmetrically equilateral

at the fore and aft ends of the boat, and very parallel, only the rear side is larger.

Table 2 Distribution of rock images with boat motifs and women on Kaimear Island, Kei . Islands

No.	Site	Panel	Type Of Motif	
			Boat	Women
1.	Kel Lein	1	√	
2.		2	√	√
3.		4	√	√
4.		5	√	
5.		6	√	√

(Source: Analysis Results, 2021).

Images of women at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island, Kei Islands, were found in panels 2, 4 and 6 in fairly good condition, even some of the images are not clearly visible. The image of a woman is depicted with a height of under 10 centimeters, complete with body anatomy. Woman 4 (a-d) is depicted with her legs upright and her legs open and her arms raised up and stretched down. Legs that are stretched parallel to the position of the body that supports, as well as the two outstretched arms. In contrast to female figure 4 (e-f) both legs are parallel and open with the hands resting on the waist. At the head using something (decoration) is very high with a shape like an umbrella at the top. Draw in red with a height of 2 centimeters from the floor surface of the niche.



Figure 4 Boats at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island, Kei Islands, Maluku Province. (Photo Source: Doc, Balar Maluku, 2018-2019).

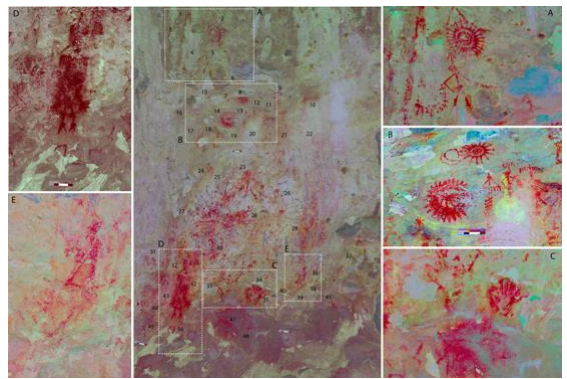
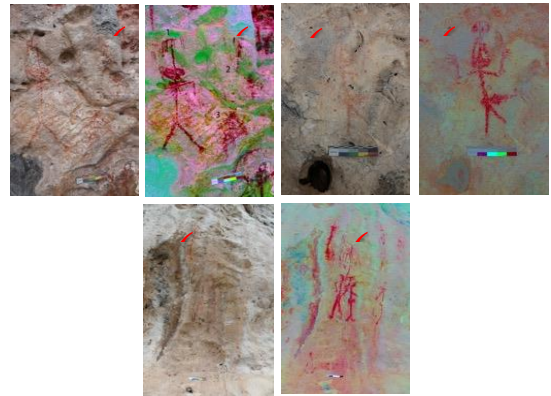


Figure 5 Women at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island, Kei Islands, Maluku. (Source: Doc, Balar Maluku 2019).

3. DISSCUSSION

The results show that as many as 7 (seven) boats were recorded on the two islands with the character of the boat according to the ocean currents in the area. The seven boats consist of boats that 1) function to carry people and goods and can explore long journeys between islands. The condition of this boat is clearly seen in the images represented in Figure 2 (a, g) and Figure 3 (a, d). 2) The function of the boat for daily use, in other words, not a long trip, just one point to another around the island, is found in the images of Figure 2 (d, f) and Figure 3 (e).

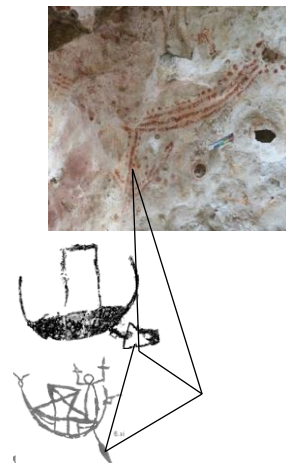


Figure 6 Boats at the Kel Lein Site (above) and several boats in East Timor (below) and Kei Kecil. (Source: Dok Balar Maluku, Lape 2007 and Ballard 1988).

Figure 3(a) depicts a very simple large boat using oars. The picture of the boat at the Kel Lein site is depicted with oars on the right side of the boat, while other images are depicted on the left side of the boat. This image is more clearly recorded on the boats at the Dudumahan Kei Kecil Site and East Timor at the Lene Hera, Lene Cece, Suntaleo and Ili Kere-kere sites 5,6 and 7 (Lape et al., 2007) (Ballard, 1988).).

Human figures in rock art can have several indicators of their gender. Gender is defined as the biological difference between men and women. These aspects of the human figure may include the vagina, penis and breasts. But it may also differ by secondary sex characteristics such as body fat and muscle. The most common gender indicator in distinguishing human figures in rock art. However, we can work with markers of "gender" features such as hair, clothing style, body décor, equipment, activities, geometric figures, etc. These markers are culturally constructed and culturally specific (Hays-Gilpin 2004:15 in (Gender in Rock Art, 2014).

The case of female rock images at the Kisar Island and Kel Lein Sites can be categorized as female based on the definition described above. There are 6 (six) images of women on the two islands which are categorized as traditional activities. Sue (S. O'Connor et al., 2018) Some images on sites on Kisar Island legitimize male figures, because of the character's full frontal position, holding weapons and in groups. In addition, it is important that the images show traditional activities or performative ceremonies. Culture in the Maluku Islands, women play an important role in the structure of roles, functions and positions in a sustainable traditional activity, including: boat-building traditions, agricultural systems, fishing systems, kinship and even language (Wattimena, 2014, 2016c, 2016b, 2016a, 2017, 2016d). ; Wattimena et al., 2017).

4. CONCLUSION

The basic difference between maritime routes in Southeast Maluku Islands, Indonesia based on rock drawings is in the functional structure of these sites. Rock Art at the Kel Lein Site, Kaimear Island, Kei Islands show that the site is a temporary location for activities to continue onward journeys. Meanwhile, maritime routes on Kisar Island dominate the long-term pattern of settlement, due to the simple forms of boats for daily fishing needs, and pictures of women's traditional activities of sedentary patterns.

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