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# THE PERCEPTION OF THE TRADITIONAL DEATH CEREMONY (RAMBU SOLO) ON TOP OF FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT FOR TORAJA MIGRANTS IN SANGATTA AND TANGERANG USING AN ETHNOGRAPHIC APPROACH

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Abstract. The *Rambu Solo* is a traditional death ceremony carried out by the Toraja people to honor the spirits of the deceased. In reality, the implementation of the *Rambu Solo* Culture has a phenomenon where the economic is low, the *Rambu Solo* ceremony cost is very expensive, but it is still being held by Toraja people. The method used in this research is qualitative with an ethnographic approach. This research aims to learn from the Toraja people who have migrated and settled in Sangatta and Tangerang, why the *Rambu Solo* ceremony is still being held even though the implementation costs are very expensive, how their perception of the *Rambu Solo* customs, and how they manage their finances for the implementation of this traditional death ceremony by analyzing the behaviour of a group of Toraja people in Sangatta and Tangerang who already have families and are domiciled in the Sangatta and Tangerang areas. Based on the results of the interview, it is concluded that overall, the perception of Toraja migrants towards the *Rambu Solo* ceremony on top financial management is the *Rambu Solo* has important

values so this ceremony must be preserved even though the costs incurred are very expensive. These share values are preserving of tradition and cultural heritage; the importance of spirituality, belief and perceptions of death and the afterlife (*Aluk To Dolo*); solidarity (mutual cooperation, caring, helping and share each other, consolidation of family and social network) (*Misa' Kada Dipotuo, Pantan Kada Dipomate*); respect for the ancestors; and recognition of social status, power (prestige) and social sanction (*tula*).

**Keywords**: *Rambu Solo*, Traditional Death Ceremony, Toraja Migrant, Ethnographic.

#### **INTRODUCTION**

According to 2023 BPS data, Tana Toraja and North Toraja Regencies, located in South Sulawesi, had a population of 257,901 people. BPS noted that in 2015, the majority (72.61%) of the livelihoods of the population in Tana Toraja were in the agricultural sector; 13.08% in the services sector, including: community, social and individual services; and the remaining 14.31% were in the industrial, trade and accommodation industries, transportation, mining and others. In other words, the majority of the population works in the non-formal sector so the income earned may not meet the (minimum) Tana Toraja UMK (Regency minimum wage) standard (2023), which was IDR 3,384,876. Furthermore, BPS 2023 data, the percentage of poor people in Tana Toraja Regency rose 0.3% from the previous year to 12.48% or 30,230 people earning below the UMK, who only had an average monthly income of IDR 399,202.

With this income statistic, the Toraja, as an indigenous tribe that inhabits the Tana Toraja Regency, has customs that are still adhered to today, namely in the form of unique traditional celebrations that require high costs, one of which is the celebration of the *Rambu Solo* (*Rambu*: Smoke, *Solo*: Bottom), which means sad ceremony, namely the term Death Ceremony, which, according to Kondongan (2019), can reach hundreds of millions to billions of rupiah. According to Narasani (2022), the *Rambu Solo* event aims to honor and send the spirits of people who have died back to eternity with their ancestors, called *puya* (heaven), according to *Aluk Todolo*'s (animist) beliefs. While nowadays, the majority of the religion in the Toraja tribe is Protestant (71%, BPS 2023), according to Arianti (2021), there was acculturation and changes in religious values in the *Rambu Solo* tradition. Economic capacity was another factor that influenced the shift in values in these

modern times. The main focus of implementing *Rambu Solo* has shifted slightly. The higher the family's economic life, the more luxurious the *Rambu Solo* tradition is held to show its social status (sense of prestige).

This ceremony is different for each group of society. If a noble dies, the number of buffalo slaughtered for the event is much greater than for non-nobles (Roosmala, 2009). Added by Tahirs (2020), for noble families, the number of buffalo can range from 24 to 100 buffalos; this is called *Sapu Randanan* (Mangopang, 2018), which consists of various types of buffalo (female buffalo, male buffalo, sambao buffalo, white buffalo head, pudu buffalo). Meanwhile, middle-class residents must slaughter eight buffalos plus 50 pigs, and the ceremony lasts around three days. If the family of the deceased is unable to carry out the *Rambu Solo* ceremony, the family will keep the body in Tongkonan (a Toraja traditional house) until the family can provide a sacrificial animal to carry out the ceremony; it can last for years.

One of the things that makes the *Rambu Solo* expensive is the price of buffalo (*Tedong*) commodities in Tana Toraja, which is much higher than in other regions of Indonesia. The higher price of buffalo is mainly due to buffalo having a special meaning for the Toraja people. According to Mangopang (2018), apart from being a ritual, *Tedong* is one of the benchmarks for the wealth or success of family members holding the *Rambu Solo* ceremony. In Tana Toraja, buffalo is offered in various types. Here are the names of buffalo and their average prices in 2020 (Tahirs, 2020):

No	Name of	Physical Characteristics of Buffalo	Price
	Buffalo Type		Range
			per Head
			(Rupiah)
1	Tedong Saleko	A buffalo with perfect stripes and the stripes are	500
	O	. 1.1 1 1 1	'11'
2	Tedong Bonga	A buffalo that has stripes on parts of its body, including	70-200
		those with stripes only on a small part of its body.	million
3	Tedong Pudu'	A buffalo has a stocky body and a pitch-black colour	40-120
	S	and is strong in fighting. At the buffalo fighting event at	million

No	Name of	Physical Characteristics of Buffalo	Price
	<b>Buffalo Type</b>		Range
			per Head
			(Rupiah)
		the death party, the buffalo will appear as the strongest	
		fighter.	
4	Tedong Balian	A castrated female buffalo has horns 2.5 meters long.	60-100
			million
5	Tedong Lotong	A buffalo with white skin but black shoulders that are	60-90
	Boko	symmetrical between the left and right.	million
6	Tedong Sokko'	A buffalo with horns that go downwards and almost	50-80
		meet at the lower jaw.	million
7	Tedong Tekken	A buffalo with 1 horn pointing upwards and 1 pointing	40-70
		downwards.	million
8	Tedong Todi'	A buffalo which is black but has white on its head or	20-40
		forehead	million
9	Tedong Sambao	A buffalo with the colour of the gloomy fur is neither	10-15
		black, nor red, usually called servant buffalo which is	million
		the cheapest buffalo	

Arianti (2021) added that apart from the cost of purchasing animals, families must also prepare other needs, such as decorations, logistics, sound systems, and worker services, and must pay taxes. Based on the Letter of the Director General of Financial Balance Number S-41/PK/PK.4/2020 dated 25 September 2020 concerning the Second Amendment to Regional Regulation Number 7 of 2011) the levy rate for slaughtering Buffalo is Rp 250,000/head and Pigs is Rp 100,000/head.

According to Moga (2017), during traditional ceremonies, the family will receive gifts from the entire family and their relatives in the form of food, groceries, and animals,

which become symbols of each series of ceremonies carried out in Toraja. However, in the end, these gifts/ donations will become "indan" or debt for those who carry out traditional ceremonies. So, the more gifts you receive, the more you pay. The *indan* will be paid if the family who brought the gift carries out a traditional ceremony. According to Sukirman (2021), the *indan* are recorded by the person assigned on ordinary paper, which has no rules or standards for recording. The intended family is obliged to return it because it is customary law and because they bear a moral and social burden as long as he still has the debt. The return must be with the same value/size or a higher value/size. The Toraja tribe has the value said *Na po pa'dik pa'dikta* (there will be no end to giving to each other).

Because economic, social, and cultural pressures such as the *Rambu Solo* which have been explained above, according to Laendoto (2022), are one of the causes of many Toraja people migrating, they want to improve their standard of living, so that wherever the Toraja people migrate, they will work hard and persistent in obtaining a better income, so that they can finance the traditional ceremonies that are carried out or have prestige and achievements in society. Similar reasons also influence Toraja people to migrate; according to Paembonan (2022), apart from cultural demands and increasing achievement and prestige, the cost of living in Toraja is higher because it is a tourist area. The research results are also supported by Chairil (2001), who states that when people migrate because they experience difficulties in their place of origin, they want to get cash to finance their daily living and pay off debts.

The economic motive, the main factor in migration, should make personal financial management important for Toraja migrants. According to Hananto (2011), personal financial management includes money/fund management, spending and credit, savings, and investment. Masassya (2004) previously also divided income allocation into three main things, namely consumption, savings, and investment. However, in daily practice, income allocation has its own art of management, which varies according to habits, experience, or knowledge.

This research aims to learn from the Toraja people who have migrated and settled in Sangatta and Tangerang, why the *Rambu Solo* ceremony is still being held even though the implementation costs are very expensive, how their perception of the *Rambu Solo* customs, and how they manage their finances for the implementation of

this traditional death ceremony by analyzing the behavior of a group of Toraja people in Sangatta and Tangerang who already have families and are domiciled in the Sangatta and Tangerang areas.

#### RESEARCH METHOD

The method used in this research is qualitative with an ethnographic approach. According to Moleong (1990), the term ethnography comes from the words ethnos (nation) and graphic (describe), so ethnography in question is an attempt to define culture or cultural aspects. Meanwhile, Spradley (1997) added that ethnography is a building of knowledge that includes research techniques, ethnographic theory, and various cultural descriptions.

As defined by Cresswell (2015), Ethnography is a research method in the social sciences. This study believes strongly in immediacy, personal experience, and the ability to engage, not just observe; researchers are also trained in ethnography. The research focus in Ethnography includes an in-depth study of culture and language, a field or region, or a combination of historical methods, observation, and interviews. Ethnographic research design is a qualitative research process to describe, analyse, and interpret a pattern of diverse cultural groups whose behaviour, beliefs, and language develop over time.

The goal of ethnography then was to give an analytical description of other cultures (Barbour, 2007), an exploration of a particular phenomenon, rather than the testing of a hypothesis (Atkinson and Hammersley, 1994). The data consisted of unstructured accounts and the analysis, which provided interpretation of meaning, was done by the researcher, using observation, description, and explanation (Reeves, Kuper & Hodges, 2008).

In the research, we used a structured interview method to collect data from respondents. This research used a purposive sampling method using specific criteria, including (1) Toraja migrants who live in Sangatta and Tangerang (as domicile of researchers), (2) married and working, and (3) a minimum age of 30 years. From these criteria, the researcher picked the respondents of 5 (five) migrants living in Sangatta and 3 (three) migrants living in Tangerang who met the requirements as the research subjects. Choosing the respondents also related to the closeness between the respondents and the

researchers, namely as good friends at the office within a 5 to 15-year time interval (Toraja migrants in Sangatta) and as relatives of one of the researchers (Toraja migrants in Tangerang). With this closeness, the respondents were open to answering the research questions.

Meanwhile, brief profiles of the eight respondents are as follows.

**Table 1. Profile of Toraja Migrants** 

N	Description	Migran	Migran	Migrant	Migrant	Migrant	Migran	Migra	Migran
0		t 1	t 2	3	4	5	t 6	nt 7	t 8
1	Gender	Female	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male	Male

N	Description	Migran	Migran	Migrant	Migrant	Migrant	Migran	Migra	Migran
o		t 1	t 2	3	4	5	t 6	nt 7	t 8
2	Age	38	42	33	43	37	52	59	45
	Age	36	72	33	73	37	32	37	43
3	Married		Married	Married	Married	Married	Married	Marrie	Married
	Status	Married						d	

N	Description	Migran	Migran	Migrant	Migrant	Migrant	Migran	Migra	Migran
0		t 1	t 2	3	4	5	t 6	nt 7	t 8
	7. 11 1	G 1 1	-	G 1 11	<b>T</b>	-		-	-
4	Religion	Catholic	Protesta	Catholic	Protestant	Protestan	Protesta	Protest	Protesta
			nt			t	nt	ant	nt
5	Number of	3	4	1	3	2	1	3	3
	Children								
6	Occupation	Manage	Senior	Superinte	Senior	Accounti	Insuranc	Restaur	Micro
		r in	Enginee .	ndent in	Manager	ng Staff	e	ant or	Finance
		Mining		Mining	_		Broker	Food	and
		Compan	Mining	Compan	Company	Mining		Busine	School
		у	Compan	У		Compan		SS	
			У			У			
7	Domicile	Sangatt	Sangatta	Sangatta	Sangatta	Sangatta	Tangera	Tanger	Tangera
		a					ng	ang	ng
8	Hometown	Con coll	Toraja	Toraja	Sa'dan	Sa'dan	Sa'dan	Sa'dan	Songar!
°	Name in	Sangall a	1 oraja Utara	Utara	Sa Gall	Sa Gall	Sa dan Balusu	Sa dan Balusu	Sanggal angi,
	Toraja	a	Otara	Ciara			Daiusu	Daiusu	Desa
	101aja								Labo
									Lauo
				1	1	I			

N	Description	Migran	Migran	Migrant	Migrant	Migrant	Migran	Migra	Migran
0		t 1	t 2	3	4	5	t 6	nt 7	t 8
9 1 0	Clan  The year they started	Pararak 1991	Poppan g 1991	Ranga 2014	Bulo 1996	Bulo 2003	Toding 1999	Panum pun 1990	Samma 2002
1 1	migrating  Do you still have relatives in Tana Toraja?	Uncle and Aunt	Parent	Parent	Uncle and Aunt	Parent	Father	Parent	Parent
	Family members who have died and the respondent were involved to be responsible for celebrating their Rambu Solo	Grandfa ther (2019) Father (2021)	Grandfa ther's relative (2015) Grandfa ther (2016) Father (2017)	N/A (Because grandpar ents died when the Respond ent was a child)	Grandmot her (2020)	Grandmo ther (2020)	Grandm other, Mother and Brother	Father (2 years waiting for Rambu Solo after he died) Grand mother (26 years waiting for Rambu Solo after she died)	N/A

N	Description	Migran	Migran	Migrant	Migrant	Migrant	Migran	Migra	Migran
0		t 1	t 2	3	4	5	t 6	nt 7	t 8
1	Family	Mother	Mother	Parent	Parent	Parent	Father	Mother	Parent
3	members,								
	according to								
	customary								
	law, will be								
	the								
	respondent's								
	responsibilit								
	y to								
	contribute								
	on the								
	Rambu Solo								
	in the future								
1	Join with	No	Yes as	Yes as a	No	No	Yes	No	Yes as a
4	Community		a	Member			(Spiritu		Treasur
	of Toraja		Secretar				al		er
			у				Section)		

Using data obtained from respondents, researchers identified unique behavioural phenomena from Toraja Migrants in Sangatta and Tangerang. The researcher gave labels to the categories that emerged and used the list of categories to analyse and draw conclusions according to the research objectives regarding how the Toraja people who have migrated and settled in Sangatta in Tangerang interpret the *Rambu Solo* customs and how they manage finances for the implementation of this traditional ceremony.

#### RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Ethnographic data was obtained from the interviews of 5 (five) Toraja migrants living in Sangatta and 3 (three) Toraja migrants living in Tangerang as well as from the researcher's observation of *Rambu Solo* through video. In this research, the interviews were conducted using open questions and had permission to be recorded.

In this research, interviews were conducted using open-ended questions and the results of the interviews were divided based on the domicile of the respondents as shown in Table 2.

Table 2.1. Interview Result for Toraja Migrants in Sangatta

N						
0	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
1	Why is the	This	In the past, the	According	This is a	When we talk
	Rambu Solo	Rambu	concept was	to the Toraja	traditional	about <i>Rambu</i>
	still being held	Solo is a	"Aluk To	people, the	process in	Solo, the
	by Torajans	traditional	Dolo," namely	more	the context	meaning then
	even though	party	the belief that	animals	of a funeral.	and now is
	implementation	(custom	the spirit of the	sacrificed,	In my	different. In the
	costs are very	law); as	slaughtered	the more	family, it is	past, it was
	expensive?	time goes	animal would	provisions	a sacred	more about the
		by, this	guide the path	will be taken	thing that	customs and
		party is	of the deceased	to "puya"	we must	beliefs of
		held for	who was about	(heaven) so	respect. In	"Aluk To
		reasons of	to be buried.	that the	the past, the	<i>Dolo</i> ." The
		prestige.	This ceremony	deceased is	noble caste	person who
			is <b>sacral and</b>	not on the	was	died had to be
			ritual.	road. This	considered	slaughtered by
			However, the	ceremony is	capable of	a buffalo as
			concept is now	sacral and	carrying out	capital for his
			more focused on	ritual. This	this	journey.
			prestige.	is also show	ceremony,	However, now,
				how Toraja	and it has	it is more about
				people work	continued	prestige.
				together to	until now. It	
				ease the	is a <b>custom</b>	
				burden on	law.	
				bereaved		
				families.		
				This party is		
				our way of		
				honoring,		
				appreciatin		
				g, or saying		

N	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
0		<b>8</b> ·· ·	6 ** *	<u> </u>	<b>6</b> ·· ·	8
				thank you		
				to people		
				who have		
				died.		
2	How is your	As a	I am one of the	Because I	In general,	I wouldn't say I
	perception	custom	modern ones	grew up and	that Rambu	like customs
	regarding the	that must	who think it is	was born in	Solo is a	like this. I had
	Rambu Solo?	still be	more about	Toraja, I	custom, and	financial
		implement	being grateful	understand	I am sure of	difficulties in
		ed, the	that I could hold	that it is not	it. I believe	college because
		Rambu	this event	something to	that	I could not
		Solo must	because it was	be taken as a	donating to	have a
		be carried	through my	burden; it	this event	computer to
		out. But	parents that I	just depends	will not	study.
		there are	could go to	on ability.	make you	Meanwhile, at
		things that	school and work	The custom	poor.	that time, the
		are <b>more</b>	as I do now.	is not		Rambu Solo
		prioritized		forced. I am		party was still
				where I am		being held
		The money		today		even though it
		for this		because of		required a lot
		Rambu		my		of funds.
		Solo can		predecessors		However, I
		be used for		. This is also		support this
		children's		part of the		custom.
		education		way we		
		or positive		share with		
		things.		the local		
				community		
				because the		
				slaughter of		
				these		
				animals will		
				be shared		

N o	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
U				and eaten		
				together.		
3	How much	It could be	If we want to	It depends	I do not	The cost is
	does it cost for	up to 500	compute it, the	on the	know the	approximately
	one death	million. If	net amount is	length of the	exact	1 billion
	party?	there are	about 5 billion,	event, how	number, but	rupiah, and the
		many	or about 30	much food	it's clear	number of
		family	buffalo heads,	must be	there are a	buffalo is
		members,	and there might	provided,	lot. In fact,	around 20
		the costs	be thousands of	and the type	many of the	heads.
		will be	pigs. The event	of casket.	buffalo were	According to
		even more.	is held		not only	the <b>family</b>
			magnificently		from the	agreement, the
			because the		nuclear	number of
			grandparents are		family who	buffalo will
			still nobility.		prepared	determine how
					them but	many will be
			Every child		were also	slaughtered,
			contributes in		brought by	how many will
			the form of		other people	be saved, how
			buffaloes or		"gotong	many will be
			money to help		royong" or	slaughtered for
			their parents in		mutual	events, and
			the		corporation	how many will
			implementation			be handed over
			of the Rambu			to the local
			Solo.			community.
4	How do you	The first	For this reason,	Taken from	I think	There is no
	manage the	allocation	I allocate	savings and	almost no	special
	finances for	is	emergency	want to	one prepares	allocation for
	throwing a	investment	savings funds	avoid going	for that. If	the Rambu
	death party?	(50%) in a	(30%) for	into debt to	there are no	Solo. I will
		form of	religion and	hold the	funds and	spend money
		land and	social purposes.	party.	the family	on the Rambu

N	Owastian	Missout 1	Microsof 2	Mismont 2	Migrant 4	Missout 5
0	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
		houses,			agrees, we	Solo based on
		savings	I separate it	I invested in	will	my financial
		(30%) then	between	a house and	postpone the	ability (no
		consumpti	personal indan	buffalo. if I	ceremony.	debt)
		on (20%).	and family	need to	However, if	
			indan. For	make a	many of the	
		There is no	personal indan,	sacrifice, I	families	
		special	I will pay. For	already have	decide to do	
		allocation	family indan,	it; if I buy a	it quickly	
		for the	we <b>shared</b> the	big one, it is	and I need	
		Rambu	cost with the	expensive.	the funds, I	
		Solo, if	children		have to find	
		there are	equally.		the funds,	
		donations I			like it or	
		take them			not.	
		from the			Because of	
		consumpti			this, most	
		on post.			people <b>sell</b>	
					their assets	
					and go into	
					debt.	
					If there are	
					donations	
					for the	
					Rambu	
					Solo, I will	
					use the	
					saving in	
					my account	
					bank.	
5	How do you	I will <b>help</b>	We are just	I contribute	It's not	Just to
	contribute to	what can I	helping	as much as	mandatory,	help/represent
	the Rambu	do. So I	parents. We are	I can.	but it has	the mother.
	Solo?	never set a	still involved in		become a	

N	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
0	Question	Wilgram 1	Wilgi ant 2	Wilgram 3	Wilgi alit 4	wiigi ant 3
		special	it, but not at		habit to	
		budget.	excessive levels.		help.	
6	What if the	It is	There will be	If there is a	The party	Now, it's more
	money is not	common	snide	dead body in	can be	about prestige
	collected and	happened	comments.	the house (it	postponed	and prestige. If
	the Rambu Solo	and it will		has not been	until funds	you say it, it
	cannot be	turn into		celebrated	are collected	must be like a
	implemented?	rumours.		yet), the	and all	social
				family	family	sanction.
				cannot hold	members	
				a wedding	can attend.	
				party	If the party	
				(Rambu	is not held,	
				Tuka) in that	the sanction	
				house.	will be	
					gossip	
					(rumours)	
					However,	
					there is a	
					sacred belief	
					that if the	
					party is not	
					held, there	
					will be	
					"tula,"	
					whether in	
					the form of	
					bad fortune	
					or bad fate.	
7	What are your	It should	I agree that the	This custom	It should be	I support this
	suggestions for	be done	Rambu Solo still	needs to be	a <b>consensus</b>	tradition, but
	the Rambu	without	exists so that	preserved	throughout	please <b>do not</b>
	Solo?	any	Toraja people	because it is	society that	make fun of
		coercion or	do not be lazy	what makes	people who	those who
		<b>prestige</b> . If	(motivated to	Toraja	cannot	cannot afford

N o	Question	Migrant 1	Migrant 2	Migrant 3	Migrant 4	Migrant 5
		someone	be success).	famous	afford it	them.
		brings	Sticking with	everywhere.	should not	Conversely,
		something	the principle, he	My advice is	be burdened	some people
		to a place	has to move	to do it	or forced.	elevate
		where	"ten fingers" to	according to		themselves,
		someone is	live. It just	your		becoming
		grieving, it	needs change. I	financial		prominent
		should be	once proposed	capacity.		there.
		given	this to cultural	Don't add		Those who are
		sincerely,	observers in	to the		truly
		not	Toraja.	financial		fortunate are
		something		burden		<b>praised</b> , while
		that has to		because life		those who are
		be returned		goes on.		not so
		again,				fortunate are
		which				feeling pity.
		becomes				
		an endless				
		chain of				
		debt.				

Table 2.2. Interview Result for Toraja Migrants in Tangerang

No	Question	Migrant 6	Migrant 7	Migrant 8
1	Why is the <i>Rambu</i> Solo still being held by Torajans even though implementation costs are very expensive?	There is a culture of shame (Saroan) if it is not implemented all out, and there is potential for rumours (gossip).  This leads to unhealthy rivalry.	The Rambu Solo can be a high motivation for Toraja children to try to study and become graduates; after graduating, they can migrate to pursue their dreams and become wealthy.	The Rambu Solo is the final expression of love and thanks from children to their parents, as demonstrated in such a ritual.  Before the burial, the family gathers to discuss the specifics of applying the Rambu Solo. Usually, the children plays a significant role. The

No	Question	Migrant 6	Migrant 7	Migrant 8
			The Rambu Solo is a culture that means maintaining family status in the community and within the family. The Rambu Solo custom must be implemented in Tana Toraja.	custom is not enforced, but rather based on family consensus to do mutual corporation (gotong royong). Indeed, some people pursue prestige.
2	How is your perception regarding the Rambu Solo?	I think Torajans throw ceremony so much that even academy business can be put on hold for the party. I don't think that's good.  Education should be prioritized over customs.  When these Toraja people return home, they are embarrassed if they do not have buffalo to purchase for the Rambu Solo. He was grieving not because he had lost his family, but because he was	In general, after we migrated, we did not really understand the Rambu Solo customs. Even after we returned to Toraja, we still did not understand. So, Toraja people generally work hard to earn money for the burial of the dead, but that's the culture.	In principle, the implementations of the Rambu Solo means help each other. If I have a family member who is grieving, for instance, my family and I will collaborate and assist one another. Donating to a bereaved family does not obligate the item to be returned. We stand strong; the term is united in Toraja.

No	Question	Migrant 6	Migrant 7	Migrant 8
		unable to purchase a buffalo.		
3	How much does it cost for one death party?	When my grandmother died on her <i>Rambu Solo</i> , 17 buffalos were slaughtered; when my mother died on her <i>Rambu Solo</i> , 25 buffalos were slaughtered; and when my brother died on his <i>Rambu Solo</i> , 35 buffalos were slaughtered. So it all depends on the family agreement.	In Toraja, there is no minimum term for the number of <i>Tedong</i> slaughtered. That is because, based on what was agreed, that is what was cut.  If it is the lowest caste, there is no need to slaughter the buffalo. But now, those who are successful are bringing the <i>Rambu Solo</i> , and it cannot be banned.	It depends on the agreement and the family's own capabilities, not forced, helping each other. The longer the party is held, for example, three days or one week, the greater the expenses compared to one day. On average, one buffalo costs more than 25 million per head.
4	How do you manage the finances for throwing a death party?	As far as I can see, these Toraja migrants are sometimes quite frugal. It's like if they look for money for five years, then come home for a week for a party, and the money is gone, even though it took five years to collect it.	There is no strategy because the Rambu Solo is not only a personal responsibility but a big family responsibility. Those who migrate must be contribute or "gotong royong" to support relatives who live in traditional homes because we have	There are eight people in our family and the <i>Rambu Solo</i> event will be <b>shared together</b> .  The income is sufficient for family consumption. There is no specific savings for the <i>Rambu Solo</i> .

No	Question	Migrant 6	Migrant 7	Migrant 8
		In general, Toraja society is set aside routinely (saving) for customs.	agreed that relatives who live in that houses replace parents and grandmothers.	
5	How do you contribute to the Rambu Solo?	I contributed to the Rambu Solo of my grandmother, mother and brother.	I contributed to the Rambu Solo of my grandmother and father.	I have not had any contributions because my parents are still alive.
6	What if the money is not collected and the <i>Rambu Solo</i> cannot be implemented?	You can wait for the ceremony to be held until the family gathering and the contribution budget for the party is ready.	The Rambu Solo is an obligation that must be carried out. At a minimum, the close family must be able to support the Rambu Solo event. If this is not done, it will become a discussion that will cause embarrassment for the family, it is called siri.	For Toraja migrants there are community contributions from the Indonesian Toraja Community Association (PMTI). So, for example, if you need a coffin, flower arrangements and the cost of sending the body to Toraja will be borne by the community.
7	What are your suggestions for the Rambu Solo?	The Rambu Solo culture is preserved. I see that this is a good practice, particularly the cohesiveness. So it should be maintained as a custom from generation to the	In Tana Toraja, the Rambu Solo must be implemented, whereas in Tangerang, it is not implemented because government regulations limit the	The Rambu Solo should be preserved within community such as the Toraja Church.

No	Question	Migrant 6	Migrant 7	Migrant 8
		next generation. The way to maintain with the lesson of Toraja language at home to family.	implementation of burial time.  The migrant of Toraja think that this culture should be changed. But in reality, the costs continue to increase. It is about prestige.	

In addition to the interviews, the researcher observed how the respondents perceived and interpreted the *Rambu Solo* customs, especially in the migrant area, and how they managed the finances for the traditional ceremony.

The researcher used the interview results, which were processed with observation activities and documentation data, to determine the value of each respondent. The results of this assessment are depicted in Table 3 of the following Data Analysis:

**Table 3. Data Analysis** 

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		Every Migrant Area	from Two
					Migrant Area
1	Toraja	Migrant 1	a. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a	a. Interpreting the <i>Rambu</i>	There are 5
	Migrant in		custom law and it's more	Solo death ceremony in	shared values
	Sangatta		about prestige.	accordance with sacral	that can be
			b. As a custom that must	traditional belief, namely	concluded from
			still be implemented but	Aluk to Dolo, which leads	Toraja
			education more	the corpse's trip to heaven	participants who
			prioritized.	and is viewed as a gesture	migrated to
			c. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> can be	of respect and thanks to	Sangata and
			costly up to 500 million	the ancestors. However, it	Tangerang,
			(expensive).		obtained from

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		Every Migrant Area	from Two
					Migrant Area
			d. For contribution,	gradually became more	the results of
			migrant will help what	about prestige.	interviews:
			can she does	b. The costs incurred for	a. Preserving of
			e. If she does not	this death ceremony are	tradition and
			contribute to the death	quite expensive but all	cultural
			party, it will turn into	member family working	heritage
			rumours.	together to bring the	b. The
			f. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> should	sacrificial animals.	importance of
			be implemented without	c. In financial management	spirituality,
			any coercion or prestige	for the Rambu Solo event,	belief and
			so that sincerely given	there is no special	perceptions of
			gifts to grieving people	allocation. They will	death and the
			can be given.	share the cost and	afterlife (Aluk
2	Toraja	Migrant 2	a. This ceremony is sacral	avoiding going into debt.	To Dolo).
	Migrant in		and ritual with the	d. Contributions to	c. Solidarity
	Sangatta		concept of Aluk to Dolo,	ceremony are limited to	(mutual
			namely that the animal is	helping/representing	cooperation,
			slaughtered, and its spirit	parents according to	caring,
			will guide the deceased's	ability and not	helping and
			path to heaven. Now, the	excessively.	share each
			concept more focused on	e. If someone cannot carry	other - Misa'
			prestige.	out a death party, he will	Kada
			b. Being grateful that I	be a subject to social	Dipotuo,
			could hold this event for	sanctions in the form of	Pantan Kada
			my parents.	rumours and gossip or	Dipomate),
			c. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> can be	even there will be "Tula".	consolidation
			costly about 5 billion	f. Migrants think the <i>Rambu</i>	of family and
			(expensive) or 30	Solo should still	social
			buffaloes. Every child	implemented because it	networks.
			help their parents for	has become a custom.	d. Respect for
			implementation the	But, in practice, it should	the ancestors.
			ceremony.	not become a place of	e. Recognition
			d. There are savings for	prestige/social status.	of social
			emergency funds of 30%		status, power
			including for religious		(prestige) and

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		<b>Every Migrant Area</b>	from Two
					Migrant Area
			and social purposes. For		social
			family indan, they		sanction
			shared the cost among		(tula).
			other children.		
			e. Just helping parents is		
			not too much.		
			f. There will be snide		
			comments.		
			g. Existence of the <i>Rambu</i>		
			Solo is still maintained		
			so that Toraja people		
			motivated to be success		
			for raising funds in order		
			to finance the ceremony.		
3	Toraja	Migrant 3	a. This ceremony is <b>sacral</b>		
	Migrant in		and ritual. The more		
	Sangatta		animals sacrificed; the		
			more provisions will be		
			taken to "puya"		
			(heaven). This is show		
			people work together		
			and their way of		
			honoring, appreciating		
			or expressing gratitude		
			to the deceased.		
			b. Ceremony part of the		
			way we share with the		
			local community.		
			c. The ceremony's cost		
			depends on the		
			ceremony's length and		
			how much food must be		
			provided. The longer the		
			ceremony, the more		
			expensive it will be.		

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		<b>Every Migrant Area</b>	from Two
					Migrant Area
			d. Set aside existing		
			savings and want to		
			avoid going into debt to		
			hold the party.		
			e. Contribution to this		
			ceremony is limited to		
			ability. Not overdoing it.		
			f. This custom needs to be		
			preserved because make		
			Torajans famous		
			everywhere but its		
			implementation is		
			adjusted to financial		
			capabilities and should		
			not add to the burden.		
			Life must be go on.		
4	Toraja	Migrant 4	a. The death ceremony is a		
	Migrant in		custom law process in		
	Sangatta		the context of a funeral		
			and is something sacred		
			that must be respected.		
			b. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a		
			custom and donating to		
			this event will not make		
			you poor.		
			c. The cost of the <i>Rambu</i>		
			Solo are a lot expensive.		
			But the family work		
			together ("gotong-		
			royong") to bring in		
			sacrificial animals		
			(buffaloes) for the death		
			procession.		
			d. Not preparing funds for		
			the Rambu Solo. If there		

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		<b>Every Migrant Area</b>	from Two
					Migrant Area
			are insufficient funds,		
			the ceremony can be		
			postponed or you can		
			sell assets until you have		
			debt.		
			e. Contributing to the death		
			party is not mandatory		
			but has become a habit		
			(custom) to help each		
			other.		
			f. If the ceremony funds		
			have not been collected,		
			the event can be		
			postponed first.		
			However, there is a		
			belief that if you don't		
			carry out the death		
			procession you will get		
			"tula" or bad		
			fortune/fate and will be		
			rumours.		
			g. There should be a		
			consensus throughout		
			society that people who		
			cannot afford it should		
			not be burdened or		
			forced to.		
5	Toraja	Migrant 5	a. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> used to		
	Migrant in		be about custom and		
	Sangatta		Aluk to Dolo beliefs, but		
			it is now more about		
			prestige.		
			b. Even though the <i>Rambu</i>		
			Solo costs a lot of		

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		Every Migrant Area	from Two
					Migrant Area
			money, I still support it		
			as a custom		
			c. The cost is		
			approximately 1 billion		
			rupiah (expensive) and		
			according to family		
			agreement.		
			d. Spend money on the		
			Rambu Solo based on		
			financial ability (no		
			debt).		
			e. Just to help or represent		
			the mother.		
			f. Believing that this party		
			exists solely for prestige		
			and that if it fails to meet		
			societal sanctions, it is		
			merely a talking point.		
			g. Support this custom, but		
			not look down on those		
			who cannot afford them.		
6	Toraja	Migrant 6	a. In Toraja, there is a	a. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a	
	Migrant in		Saroan culture, and	culture that maintains the	
	Tangerang		there is potential for	family's status in the	
			rumours (gossip) and	community by expression	
			unhealthy rivalry.	of love and thanks to	
			b. Education should be	parents, culture of "Siri"	
			prioritized over customs.	thereby encouraging	
			c. The ceremony cost is	people to go all out in	
			equivalent to the number	holding this ceremony.	
			of buffalo slaughtered	b. In the implementation of	
			and depends on family	the Rambu Solo, all	
			agreement. It can be	families will share and	
			expensive.	helping with each other.	

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		Every Migrant Area	from Two
					Migrant Area
			d. Toraja migrants are	The costs incurred for the	
			sometimes quite frugal.	Rambu Solo event depend	
			e. If you are not ready to	on family agreement and	
			hold a party, the event	according to ability.	
			can be postponed until	c. There is no special	
			the contribution budget	strategy/saving for death	
			and the family gathering	ceremony. All family	
			is ready.	members will share the	
			f. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a	costs of the ceremony.	
			culture should be	d. If the ceremony cannot	
			maintained, even though	hold immediately, it can	
			they look burdensome.	be postponed, and the	
			However, we can only	closest family will support	
			take it from a positive	the ceremony.	
			aspect, namely the value	e. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> tradition	
			of cohesiveness.	should be preserved	
7	Toraja	Migrant 7	a. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a	within community. Even	
	Migrant in		culture in which the	though it is a burden and	
	Tangerang		meaning is to maintain	prestige, it still has to be	
			family status in the	carried out and is a shared	
			community and within	responsibility of the big	
			the family, so this	family.	
			custom must be		
			implemented. It can be a		
			high motivation for		
			Torajans to hard		
			study/work for future		
			prosperity.		
			b. Toraja people generally		
			work hard to earn money		
			for the burial of the		
			dead.		
			c. The cost depends on the		
			agreement and there is		

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		<b>Every Migrant Area</b>	from Two
					Migrant Area
			no minimum cost and		
			can be expensive.		
			d. There is no special		
			strategy for collecting		
			funds for the ceremony.		
			If we talk about		
			traditional ceremonies, it		
			will be the responsibility		
			of the big family. They		
			must contribute ("gotong		
			royong") to support		
			relatives.		
			e. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is an		
			obligation that must be		
			carried out and at least		
			the closest family must		
			support it. If this is not		
			done, it will become a		
			rumours that will cause		
			embarrassment ("siri").		
			f. This culture is about		
			prestige.		
8	Toraja	Migrant 8	a. The value is a feeling of		
	Migrant in		love and final		
	Tangerang		appreciation for parents		
			through a ceremony. The		
			custom based on family		
			consensus to do mutual		
			corporation. But, some		
			people pursue prestige.		
			b. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> is a		
			ceremony in which		
			families who are		
			grieving are treated with		
			an attitude of mutual		

No	Subject	Respondent	Values from Respondent	Shared Values from	Shared Values
		Number		<b>Every Migrant Area</b>	from Two
					Migrant Area
			assistance and		
			cooperation. We stand		
			strong; in the term.		
			c. It depends on the		
			agreement and the		
			family's own		
			capabilities, not forced,		
			helping each other.		
			d. The strategy for		
			collecting funds for this		
			ceremony is shared		
			together according to the		
			number of families.		
			e. In Tangerang, if the		
			family cannot finance		
			the body's return to		
			Toraja, the Toraja		
			community in		
			Tangerang (PMTI) will		
			contribute to help.		
			f. The <i>Rambu Solo</i> should		
			be preserved through		
			communities such as the		
			Toraja Church.		

Based on the data analysis above, there are five (5) shared values that can be concluded from participants who are Toraja tribe and have migrated from Tana Toraja to Sangatta and Tangerang, obtained from the interview results, namely: 1). Preserving of tradition and cultural heritage. The *Rambu Solo* ceremony is an important part of Torajan tradition and cultural heritage. Through this ceremony, cultural values and ancestral traditions are preserved and passed on to the next generation; 2). The importance of spirituality, belief and perceptions of death and the afterlife (*Aluk To Dolo*). For the Torajans, the death ceremony is an important time to prepare for the spirit

leaving this world. The Rambu Solo helps Torajans to face death in a meaningful way and gives them confidence about the afterlife; 3). Solidarity (mutual cooperation, caring, helping and share each other, consolidation of family and social networks). The Rambu Solo ceremony is often a pivotal moment where dispersed communities/families come back together and strengthen their relationships to provide support, care and share in grief. It strengthens family consolidation, social networks and solidarity among Torajan community. Torajans have a timeless motto passed down by their ancestors to preserve the unity and integrity of life together, namely "Misa' Kada Dipotuo, Pantan Kada Dipomate", which means "United We Stand, Divided We Collapse"; 4). Respect for the ancestors. The Rambu Solo is also a celebration that emphasizes the importance of paying proper respect to ancestors; and 5). Recognition of social status, power (prestige) and social sanction (tula). The Rambu Solo ceremonies often reflect the social status and wealth of the deceased's family. The larger the ceremony and the number of animals sacrificed, the higher the social status shown. So the concept of the ceremony has shifted to a prestige event and if you do not fulfill this ceremony, there will be social sanctions (rumors) and some even believe in "tula".

#### **CONCLUSION**

Based on the results of the interview, it is concluded that overall, the perception of Toraja migrants towards the *Rambu Solo* ceremony on top financial management is the *Rambu Solo* has important values so this ceremony must be preserved even though the costs incurred are very expensive and there is no special allocation in terms of funds for Toraja Migrants. These share values are preserving of tradition and cultural heritage; the importance of spirituality, belief and perceptions of death and the afterlife (*Aluk To Dolo*); solidarity (mutual cooperation, caring, helping and share each other, consolidation of family and social network) (*Misa' Kada Dipotuo, Pantan Kada Dipomate*); respect for the ancestors; and recognition of social status, power (prestige) and social sanction (*tula*). Thus, the *Rambu Solo* death ceremony not only has ritual value and hereditary beliefs, but also has a deep meaning in the maintenance of culture, spirituality, family/social solidarity, and status recognition in Toraja society.

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