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Silahudin, S.

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Author: Silahudin, S.

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Propositions

1. Malay musicians in Pahang attest to the fact that singing and music-making are not only fun activities but also provide opportunities to be innovative and successful. (*this thesis*)
2. Internet technology has now enabled the transformation of the uses and practices of Islamic-oriented song types such as *nazam berendoi* and *dikir rebana*. (*this thesis*)
3. Punk rock music created by Malays in Pahang does not negate Islamic values, even if remnants of other cultural influences exist (for example, skinhead culture). (*this thesis*)
4. Music-making provides opportunities and privileges for women in Pahang who are prominent social actresses. Their voices undeniably play a transformative role. (*this thesis*)
5. The embellishment in Malay songs has been greatly influenced by Arabic vocal music. This is because, as Muslims, Malays would have been accustomed to the recitation of the Quran and would have listened to the Islamic call to prayer (adhan) since childhood. (*this thesis*)
6. Malay classical literature from the late fourteenth century provides diverse and broad-ranging textual references to Malay culture, which supplement and enhance earlier epigraphical and art-historical data and therefore form a valuable added resource for Malay studies.
7. The Malayness (*ke-Melayu-an*) of Malay culture is subject to contestation and historical change.
8. In writing an ethnography of the Pahang Malays in the 21st century, the researcher should also include an online study of their behaviours. By researching the behaviours of various digital musical communities, valuable data is generated with regard to Pahang culture that would have otherwise remained invisible.
9. Hip-hop culture, previously considered a foreign genre, now forms part of Malays' cultural heritage. This proves that the incorporation of foreign influence does not reduce the Malayness of Malay culture; rather, it revitalizes it.
10. Persian Sufis with their Shi'ite cultural heritage played a significant role in the establishment of the Malay culture in a wide range of domains in the humanities and sciences such as art and literature. The Persian cultural influence has lasted from the eighth century to the present.
11. People who are exposed to art and creativity are happier. People are affected by their environment, and art should be part of an environment and not part of something you see in 'galleries' only.