

CHAPTER 5

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

In this thesis, the researcher studied the elements involved in the *Ruwatan Sukerta* ritual and the actions or processions performed to run the ritual. The elements found in the ritual consists of:

1. The offerings, which consists of eight kinds of yellow rice, all kinds of plants, two coconut shoots, two chicks, an *Inkung* (a cooked slaughtered chicken), and various kinds of traditional and modern snacks.
2. The participants (*sukerta*) consists of *Ontang-anting*, *Unting-unting*, and *Pancuran Kapit Sendhang*.

From the researcher's observation and interview during the process of writing her thesis, she concludes that *Ruwatan Sukerta* D.I. Yogyakarta ritual is a kind of ritual that is used for prosperity, safety, and thankfulness. Also, *Ruwatan Sukerta* in D.I. Yogyakarta follows a high context ritual because it is a formal ceremony with strict steps in the processions, and the participants are wearing a dress code as a rule that must be followed. All of the objects for the offerings are flexible depending on the puppeteer's request in ritual. Besides the offerings, the participants or *Sukerta* are an important element involved in this ritual.

Concerning the participants who follow the *Ruwatan Sukerta* ritual in D.I. Yogyakarta, two of three interviewees that the researcher interviewed admitted the impact of joining the *Ruwatan* ritual was very influential for them, such as the wishes and hopes of being *Sukerta's* parents were realized. Then, one interviewee

said that the impact of the *Ruwatan* ritual on her was normal. She said, joining the *Ruwatan* ritual is an expression of thankfulness as a Javanese.

In the procession of the *Ruwatan sukerta* ritual in D.I. Yogyakarta, the rules and regulations are determined by the organizer, the Cultural Preservation Centre (BPNB). The ritual was held at *Pendapa Taman Siswa* Yogyakarta sacredly, therefore, outsiders were prohibited to enter the venue. In the first phase, participants go around the *Pendapa (Arak-arakan)*, until the last phase is a *Sukerta's* haircut and a splash of water (*siraman*) by the Puppeteer. The actions/processions performed in a *Ruwatan Sukerta* ritual is having the following actions:

1. *Sungkeman* (kneeling down)
2. *Arak-arakan* (the parade)
3. Opening speech by the committee
4. Shadow puppet show with the story of *Murwakala*
5. *Sukerta* changed into *Kapohan* (Mori textile)
6. *Kidungan*
7. *Sukerta's* haircutting by puppeteer
8. *Siraman* (splash of water)

In general, the process of implementing *Ruwatan* ritual in all over Java is the same and can be done in every region, either in individual or public. Each region has different rules and regulations depending on the organizer. The researcher believes, by carrying out the *ruwat* process, it can preserve a culture that is one of the traditions for Javanese hereditary.