

# LEMAMBANG OF THE SANDAU ARI

Aldrin John Hew  
Jabatan Muzium Sarawak, Bagunan Annex, Jalan P Ramlee, 93400 Kuching, Sarawak.  
[Aldrinj@sarawak.gov.my](mailto:Aldrinj@sarawak.gov.my)

---

Accepted on XXXXXXXXX

---

---

## ABSTRACT

*Sandau ari* is one of the rituals performed by the Iban, the ritual has played a significant role in shaping the social, economic, religion, and politics of the Iban community in the past. Today, the *sandau ari* ceremony still plays an important role in the Iban way of life. The *sandau ari* ritual is very unique because it will only be held by someone that received guidance from *Petara* or spirit in the dream, sometime the *sandau ari* also can be requested as a blessing ritual for their journey and career. Therefore, the symbolic of *sandau ari* ritual is a sign of thanksgiving to the *Petara* or gods. This is the part where *lemambang* will play an important role in guiding and advices to the longhouse community, we need to understand the role of the *lemambang* and its connection to the Iban belief system.

### Keywords:

Religion,  
*lemambang*,  
rituals,  
stratification,

Furthermore, there is also a challenging aspect of maintaining the *sandau ari* ritual in modern times, such as the new emergence of Christianity. Nevertheless, *Sandau ari* is a unique way of life by the Iban to show their differences and uniqueness among the diverse culture of the people in Sarawak.