1. INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

A culture is one of Indonesian’s heritage that must be kept. As an archipelago country, Indonesia is a country which is rich with culture and custom as heritage that spread from Sabang to Merauke. Culture and custom that are always different from one province to another province have a special characteristic for every region in Indonesia.

As a cultural country, the culture of Indonesia is always connected with the custom. The custom is something that has high value level for the ethnic group. It must be kept and conserved in the modern era and globalization. The influence of knowledge and high technology can replace the moral value of culture, social and religion norms as well as social life.

The progressive of knowledge and high technology in the modern era can change people’s lifestyle and give the big effect to the traditional culture. The writer feels worry about this condition that can damage the moral value of culture, especially for the young generations who tend to do the negative things such as: pornography, drugs, free sex, and etc. Realizing that the change can give a big effect for the culture is difficult to be avoided, therefore the government and people are demanded to protect and preserve it.

The culture has many branches of art which can enrich the art of every provinces in Indonesia such as: clothes, dances, houses, music instruments, games, etc. In this chance, the writer feels excited to raise and describe about the traditional games. A congklak is one of the interesting traditional games that must
be kept, because it has very close connection with the sense of art. It is a simple game that is always played by the Javanese children, especially in Semarang society.

The congklak becomes the traditional game that is almost played by all Indonesian children because it has spread to all regions in Indonesia. Its spreading has created many names, for example: congkak in Medan in which its word coming from Malay. Dakon, dhakon, or dhakonan in Java. Dentuman lamban in Lampung. Makaotan, maggaleceng, aggacalang and nogarata in Sulawesi.

Beside as the traditional game, congklak can be played as a tool of killing free time which make one happy, it can also train and develop one’s mind as well as educate people to preserve their own culture.

Because of the above explanations, the writer wants to analyze this traditional game *congklak* used by Javanese in Semarang society. From this paper, he tries to find the function, the way to play, the types of congklak and etc.

### 1.2 Scope of The Study

Keeping, protecting and preserving the culture especially the traditional games that almost be forgotten by the Indonesian children because of the effects of the modern games is not easy thing because it is the inheritance that can be the symbol of the nation. Therefore, the writer limits his study on the traditional games congklak used by Indonesian Children. This study tries to explain about the
short story of the game which includes the way to play, the function and the types of congklak.

1.3 Purpose of The Study

The purposes of the study are:

1. To know and explain about one of the Indonesian traditional games in Indonesia
2. To know the meaning, the function, the roles and the way to play Congklak used by Indonesian.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The significances of the study are:

1. To enrich the knowledge of the traditional games.
2. To encourage the young generations to know, keep, protect, and preserve the traditional games.
3. To educate children to be honest person.
4. To be a reference for one in studying congklak as the traditional game in Indonesia.
5. To educate children have a good character in the future by playing congklak.
1.5 The Method of Research

In writing this paper the writer uses a method of research i.e library research. He collects the data connecting with the congklak as the traditional game from any sources for example books, articles and internet. Then the data are identified, categorized and analyzed.