

a project of
THE LONG NOW
— FOUNDATION —

Digitization of Balinese Lontar Manuscripts

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San Francisco Center for the Book

December 16, 2019

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-lCIwWwPP0I>

Balinese lontar

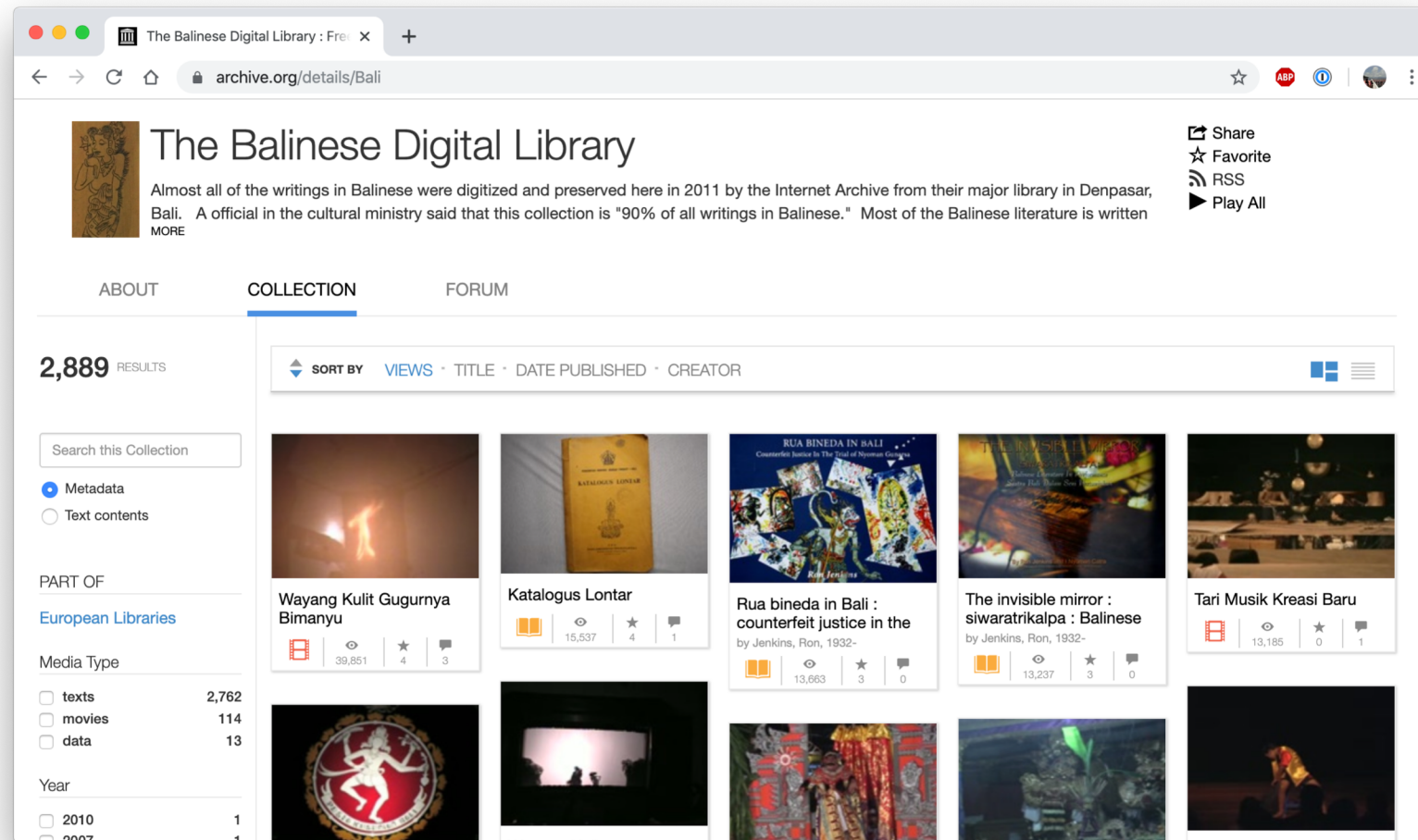
- Written in Balinese script (*aksara Bali*)
- Languages include Balinese, Old Javanese (Kawi), Sasak, and even Indonesian



Genres of lontar

- Religious texts and mantras
- Magic
- Philosophy
- Chronicles and genealogy
- Horoscopes
- Medicine
- How-to guides
- Popular verse and stories
- Classifications of things

Balinese Digital Library (2011)



Palm Leaf Wiki (palmleaf.org, 2019)

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Geguritan Rusak Banjar

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[Original on Archive.org](#)

Description
[\[edit\]](#)

Bahasa Indonesia
[\[edit\]](#)

Gēguritan adalah sebuah bentuk puisi tembang dalam bahasa sehari-hari. *Gēguritan Rusak Bañjar* berisi tentang masuknya pasukan Belanda di pulau Bali pada masa kolonial Hindia Belanda. Diceritakan bahwa serdadu Belanda menyerbu Bali utara di sebuah desa bernama Bañjar yang kemudian menangkap dan menawan para bangsawan lokal. Diceritakan bahwa serdadu Belanda berlabuh di sekitar Buleleng yang dijadikan markas bagi mereka untuk memasuki Bali.

Lontar ini ditulis oleh Wayan Budha Gautama dari Bañjar Mantring, Gianyar. Lontar ini selesai ditulis pada tahun śaka 1918.

English
[\[edit\]](#)

Gēguritan is a form of metered poem in vernacular language. *Gēguritan Rusak Bañjar* tells the comings of Dutch soldiers that began to infiltrate Bali during the colonial Dutch East Indies period. The Dutch besieged the region of North Bali, in a village called Bañjar, in which a number of local nobles were captured and imprisoned. The poem also notes that the Dutch took harbor around Buleleng, which they use as a base of operation for infiltrating Bali.

This manuscript was written by Wayan Budha Gautama from Bañjar Mantring, Gianyar Regency. The manuscript was completed on śaka year 1918.

Front and Back Covers
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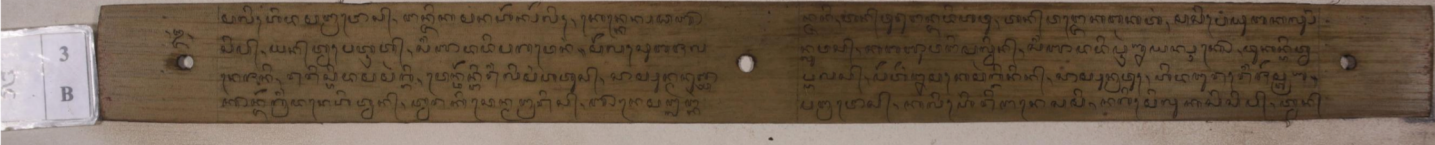
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Palm Leaf Wiki

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GEGURITAN RUSAK BANJAR
 Pusat Dokumentasi
 Dinas Kebudayaan Provinsi Bali ~ Indonesia

⋮ ✕



ອາທິບຸກຂາຍຕຽງບາສິງກາຊິກອາລາສະນີບຸກຂາຍຕຽງບາສິງກາຊິກອາລາສະນີບຸກຂາຍຕຽງບາສິງກາຊິກອາລາສະນີ
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Aksara Bali and technology

- Unicode support (since 2005)
- Fonts
- Keyboards
- Mobile support

⇒ PanLex had to improve much of this!

Aksara Bali consonants

ᬓᬕᬮᬶ	ᬓᬕᬢᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬲᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬢᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ
ha	na	ca	ra	ka	da	ta	sa	wa	la

ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ		ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ	ᬓᬕᬱᬶ
ma	ga	ba	nga		pa	ja	ya	nya

Vowel combinations

A Balinese Lontar character for the vowel combination 'sa', consisting of a single, fluid, wavy stroke.

sa

A Balinese Lontar character for the vowel combination 'si', featuring a small circular hook at the top followed by a wavy stroke.

si

A Balinese Lontar character for the vowel combination 'su', showing a wavy stroke that curves downwards into a long, teardrop-shaped tail.

su

A Balinese Lontar character for the vowel combination 'se', composed of a long, curved stroke followed by a wavy stroke.

se

A Balinese Lontar character for the vowel combination 'so', featuring a long, curved stroke followed by a wavy stroke that ends in a small circular hook.

so

Consonant combinations

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'ti'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 't' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

ti

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'sti'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 's' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

sti

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'ri'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 'r' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

ri

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'tri'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 't' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

tri

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'tru'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 't' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

tru

A Balinese Lontar character for the consonant combination 'stri'. It features a small circular vowel sign at the top, followed by a stylized 's' shape, and a vertical line on the right side.

stri

mantra



Vimala
(correct)



Noto Serif Balinese
(incorrect)

Spacing adjustments

ꦱꦩꦧ

samba

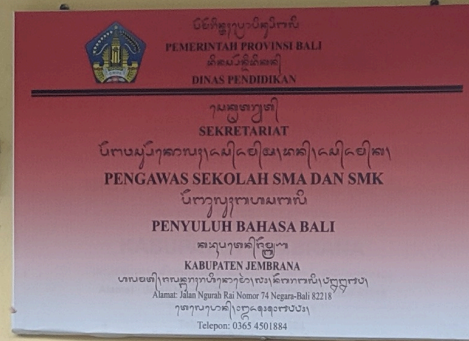
ꦱꦸꦩꦧ

sumba

Live demo







Palm Leaf Wiki: Results

- 3,000 leaves
- 92 complete works
- Examples
 - *Awig-awig desa Silanjaya* (village regulations)
 - *Carcan kucing* (taxonomy of cats)
 - *Kakawin atlas bhūmi* (world atlas poem)
 - *Kawiśeṣaning bayu* (recovery of inner energy using herbal remedies)
 - *Pangayam-ayam* (bettor's cockfighting horoscope)
 - *Pangujanan* (guide to rainmaking)
 - *Tutur rare angon* (developmental stages of human beings)

Carcan kucing (taxonomy of cats)



- “a cat whose body is white with a black spot on the right side is very good, especially if its tail is short: it brings happiness that shall always be with you”
- “a cat that is entirely black with a long tail is very bad, as it often draws blood from its owner; even if its tail is short, it is still quite bad”
- “a cat that is mute, that does not make a sound—do not be careless with such a cat, for it is very strong”