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Funeral processing on the last day

This is considerable if compared with the average annual family income which amounts to about Rp. 700,000 (appr. Rp. 375,000 value of subsistence food production and Rp. 325,000 cash income from off-farm activities), especially if one considers that most of these items have to be purchased and therefore require cash income. Thus, it is not surprising if an average family takes about five years to accumulate the funds for the ceremony under normal circumstances. In practice, however, various means of fundraising are employed which give the funeral feast the character of a fair and attract even more people to the village than would otherwise be the case, and convert it for several weeks into lively place. First, the members of the family themselves and other villagers set up tents and stalls where they sell drinks and food, from which a percentage is used for financing the costs of the ceremony. Second, the organizer of the ceremony – usually the head of the household – invites numerous traders who set up booths selling cloth, clothing items and household wares. They also give a certain amount of their profits to the family. Finally and financially most importantly, tents are set up at some distance from the village where gambling goes on during the nights of the ceremony and where until late night quite a crowd of people can still be found. The usual games are card games with bets made on a red-white dice which is spun around under a metal cover until it is uncovered at the end of the game giving the take to the players facing the red side of the dice.

The holder of the bank, who has usually been asked by the organizer of the funeral to organize the game, turns over thirty per cent of his profits for the financing of the ceremony.

In this way, funds are raised even while the ceremony is already going on, and the *wara* is told every evening about the take of the bank on which he bases, to a certain extent, his decision when to set the date for the final day of the ceremony. The pending decision of the Indonesian president to forbid all forms of gambling as of