

## **Legend Has It...**

Are you familiar with the story of Malin Kundang?

It tells of a young man who set sail to provide a better life for him and his widowed mother. As years passed by, he became successful and rich. One day he anchored down on his coastal village. His mother was so happy to see him but. embarrassed by how old and poor she was, he shoved her down and disowned her. Heartbroken, she prayed that he'd be punished. A thunderstorm then wrecked his ship into pieces, leaving him drifting to the shore and slowly turned into a rock.

This popular legend originates from West Sumatera and has been passed down through generations. To support it, there are even 'remains' of the ship and a rock that looks like a person with knees bent, face down, and arms out as if asking for forgiveness at the Aia Manih beach.

But nobody can truly confirm whether it really happened or not. Which is why it's called a falktale.

This Saturday, November 28th, Indonesia celebrates National Folktale Day. It was established in 2015 as a means to improve the right brain development as well as to stimulate the emotional intelligence and imagination of children.

Do you have a favourite tale to tell?

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Yours trully,

the community editor