ABSTRACT


This study aims to find out the symbols and meaning used on Manyonggot tradition in Malay Tanjungbalai. This study was conducted by using qualitative design. The sources of data was the Manyonggot tradition. The instrument for collecting the data were video recorder and interview sheet. The interview was assisted by two interviewees who know well about Tanjungbalai Malay culture and tradition. The findings indicated there were nine symbols on Manyonggot tradition. They were balai, pulut, daging, tolur, merawal, topung putih & topung kuning, rinjis – rinjis, bungo rampe, and kain palekat. Each of symbol that was used on Manyonggot tradition in Malay Tanjungbalai has different meaning. Balai has meaning as prosperity and also to restore the spirit (sumangat), pulut means hopes to get more intimate with the family, daging means sacrifice, tolur means regeneration, merawal means happiness, topung putih & topung kuning has meaning as an antidote from being sick, rinjis – rinjis means hopes to get a peaceful life, bungo rampe means good reputation, and kain palekat has meaning to bind all the sumangat that would back to the sick person.

Keywords : semiotics, symbol, Malay tradition, Manyonggot tradition