ABSTRACT

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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

