

**AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLS IN THE RITUAL
SPEECH OF “TOIT URAN” CEREMONY IN SOUTH
AMARASI**

A THESIS



IVANTI TEFA

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
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A THESIS

**This Thesis is Presented as Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for the
Degree of *Sarjana Pendidikan* in English Education Study Program**



IVANTI TEFA

Registered Number: 22130021

**ENGLISH EDUCATION STUDY PROGRAM
TEACHER TRAINING AND EDUCATION FACULTY
ARTHA WACANA CHRISTIAN UNIVERSITY
KUPANG
2026**

APPROVAL PAGE



This thesis entitled (An Analysis of Symbols in the Ritual Speech of “Toit Uran” ceremony in South Amarasi) written by (*Ivanti Tefa*) has been approved to be defended in a thesis examination.

First Supervisor

Second Supervisor


(Dr. Naniana N. Benu, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 1456752653130090


(Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 9955764665230232

Kupang, 15 Juni 2026

Acknowledged by,

Dean of Teachers Training and Education
Faculty

(Dra. Ageng D.N. Rupidara, M.Si., Ph.D.)
NUPTK. 315740647230103

Head of English Education Study
Program


(Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK. 9955764665230232

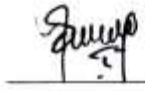
LEGITIMATION PAGE



This is to certify that this thesis entitled (An Analysis of Symbols in the Ritual Speech of "Toit Uran" ceremony in South Amarasi) written by (*Ivanti Tefa*) has been defended in a thesis examination and has been approved by the following Board of Examiners as the final requirement to be graduated as *Sarjana Pendidikan* (S. Pd.) majoring in English Language Education.

Examination Date: Wednesday, 01 July 2026

The Board of Examiners: Dr. Peggy M. Jonathans.,S.Pd.MA

	Name	Signature	Date
1	First Examiner <u>Dr. Peggy M. Jonathans, S.Pd.MA</u> NUPTK.6042756657230183		<u>01/07/26</u>
2	Second Examiner <u>Zuhyati A. Tlonaen, S.S., M.Pd</u> NUPTK.6449763664230202		<u>01/07/26</u>
3	Third Examiner <u>Dr. Naniana N. Benu, S.Pd., M.Hum</u> NUPTK.1456752653130090		<u>01/07/26</u>
4	Fourth Examiner <u>Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum</u> NUPTK.9955764665230232		<u>01/07/26</u>

Legitimated by,



Head of English Education
Study Program


(Ifoni Ludji, S.Pd., M.Hum)
NUPTK.9955764665230232

PLAGIARISM-FREE STATEMENT

The undersigned below :

Name : Ivanti Tefa
NIM : 22130021
Semester : eight (VIII)
Faculty : Teacher Training And Education
Study Program : English Education
Thesis Title : An Analysis of Symbols in the Ritual Speech of “ Toit
Uran” Ceremony in South Amarasi

I hereby declare that the thesis I am submitting to fulfill the requirements for a Bachelor of Education degree at Artha Wacana Christian University, Kupang, is original and free from plagiarism. If any discrepancies with this statement are found in the future, I am willing to be prosecuted and processed in accordance with the provisions of the Minister of National Education Regulation Number 17 of 2010. This statement is made truthfully and is used for the benefit of humanity.



Ivanti Tefa
Nim.22130021

MOTTO

“I can do all things through christ who strengthens me”

{philippians 4:13}

DEDICATION

With deep gratitude and humility, the writer dedicates this thesis to:

1. Beloved Lord Jesus Christ for the strenght and blessing during the proces of writing so the writer is able to finish it.
2. Beloved parents Eliaser Tefa and Tribuana Tefa Jebia who always pray, support, advices, and motivation to finish this study.
3. Beloved siblings, Metri Yofita Tefa, Ofrin Tefa, Selfi Muni Tefa and her husband Isak Muni and Their beloved daughter Adelia, who always support, motivation and pray to finishing this study.
4. Beloved Almamater Artha Wacana Christian University, particularly the English Education Study Program (EESP)

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Kupang, 01/07/26

The Writer,



Ivanti Tefa

AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLS IN THE RITUAL SPEECH OF “ TOIT URAN “ CEREMONY IN SOUTH AMARASI

ABSTRACT

Student, Name

Supervisor1, Name.²

Supervisor2, Name.³

(Mahasiswa, ivanti tefa) (Pembimbing 1, Naniani N Benu) (Pembimbing 2,Ifon Ludji)

This study entitled "An Analysis of Symbols in the Ritual Speech of the *Toit Uran* Ceremony in South Amarasi" examines the symbols used in the ritual speech of the *Toit Uran* ceremony and their meanings in the cultural context of the Amarasi community. This study addresses two research questions: (1) What symbols are used in the ritual speech of the *Toit Uran* ceremony? and (2) What meanings are represented by these symbols? The study employed a qualitative descriptive design. It was conducted in Sahraen Village, South Amarasi, East Nusa Tenggara. The data were collected through recordings, observation, interviews, transcription, and translation. The participants were 3 informants, including a ritual reader, a ritual speaker, traditional elders, and community members. The findings identified thirteen symbols in the ritual speech: *a paot*, *apinat*, *eon*, *fubona*, *manu*, *na*, *fatu*, *afu*, *maputu*, *marara*, *roet-roet/hau fua*, *puah manus*, and *mfait*. These symbols were grouped into four categories: Spiritual Symbols, Sacrificial Symbols, Ecological Symbols, and Social Symbols. They represent faith in God, sacrifice, environmental awareness, dependence on agriculture, social solidarity, and community well-being. The study concludes that the ritual speech of the *Toit Uran* ceremony is a symbolic system that reflects the Amarasi community's relationship with God, nature, and society. The thirteen identified symbols perform different cultural functions, including expressing prayers for rain, representing sacrifice, describing environmental conditions, and strengthening social unity. These symbols also preserve local wisdom and support the transmission of Amarasi cultural values through oral tradition.

Keywords: *Symbol, Ritual Speech, Toit Uran Ceremony, Amarasi Community, Ethnolinguistics.*

AN ANALYSIS OF SYMBOLS IN THE RITUAL SPEECH OF “ TOIT URAN “ CEREMONY IN SOUTH AMARASI

ABSTRACT

Mahasiswa **Pembimbing1, Name.²** **Pembimbing2, Name.³**
(Mahasiswa, ivanti tefa) (Pembimbing 1, Naniani N Benu) (Pembimbing 2,Ifon Ludji)

Penelitian ini berjudul "**Analisis Simbol dalam Tuturan Ritual Upacara Toit Uran di Amarasi Selatan**" yang bertujuan untuk mengkaji simbol-simbol yang digunakan dalam tuturan ritual upacara Toit Uran serta makna yang terkandung di dalamnya dalam konteks budaya masyarakat Amarasi. Penelitian ini berfokus pada dua rumusan masalah, yaitu: (1) simbol-simbol apa saja yang digunakan dalam tuturan ritual upacara Toit Uran, dan (2) makna apa yang direpresentasikan oleh simbol-simbol tersebut. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain penelitian deskriptif kualitatif. Penelitian dilaksanakan di Desa Sahraen, Kecamatan Amarasi Selatan, Kabupaten Kupang, Provinsi Nusa Tenggara Timur. Data dikumpulkan melalui observasi, wawancara, transkripsi, dan penerjemahan tuturan ritual. Partisipan penelitian terdiri atas tiga informan utama, yaitu seorang penutur ritual, seorang ketua adat, dan seorang anggota masyarakat. Hasil penelitian mengidentifikasi tiga belas simbol yang terdapat dalam tuturan ritual, yaitu *a paot*, *apinat*, *eon*, *fubona*, *manu*, *na*, *fatu*, *afu*, *maputu*, *marara*, *roet-roet (hau fua)*, *puah manus*, dan *mfait*. Simbol-simbol tersebut dikelompokkan ke dalam empat kategori, yaitu Simbol Spiritual, Simbol Pengorbanan, Simbol Ekologis, dan Simbol Sosial. Keempat kategori tersebut merepresentasikan kepercayaan kepada Tuhan, makna pengorbanan, kesadaran terhadap lingkungan, ketergantungan pada sektor pertanian, solidaritas sosial, serta kesejahteraan masyarakat. Penelitian ini menyimpulkan bahwa tuturan ritual dalam upacara Toit Uran merupakan suatu sistem simbolik yang mencerminkan hubungan masyarakat Amarasi dengan Tuhan, alam, dan sesama. Ketiga belas simbol yang ditemukan memiliki fungsi budaya yang berbeda-beda, antara lain sebagai ungkapan doa untuk memohon turunnya hujan, representasi pengorbanan, gambaran kondisi lingkungan, serta sarana untuk memperkuat persatuan dan solidaritas sosial. Selain itu, simbol-simbol tersebut berperan dalam melestarikan kearifan lokal serta mendukung pewarisan nilai-nilai budaya Amarasi melalui tradisi lisan.

Kata Kunci: *Simbol, Tuturan Ritual, Upacara Toit Uran, Masyarakat Amarasi, Etnolinguistik.*

AUTHOR'S BIO



A. Identity

1. Name : Ivanti Tefa
2. Place and date of birth : Sahraen, 29 november 2003
3. Address : Jl.suratim gang III ,RT.13/RW 5. As. Nisro
4. Cell phone number : 081353163532
5. Email address : ivantitefa1@gmail.com
6. Father's name : Eliaser Tefa
7. Mother's name : Tri Buana Jebia Tefa

B. Educational Background

1. TK et labora sahraen (2009-2010)
2. SD Negeri Sahraen (2010-2016)
3. SMP Kristen 2 Amarasi Selatan (2016-2019)
4. SMA Negeri 3 Amarasi Selatan (2019-2022)
5. Universitas Kristen Artha Wacana (2022-2026)

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