



**A Semiotic Study on *Tuwuhan* at *Tarub* Decoration of  
Javanese Wedding Ceremony**

**THESIS**

**written by:**

**Novi Merianita  
NIM 070110191016**

**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT  
FACULTY OF LETTERS  
JEMBER UNIVERSITY  
2012**



## **A Semiotic Study on *Tuwuhan* at *Tarub* Decoration of Javanese Wedding Ceremony**

**THESIS**

a thesis presented to English Department, Faculty of Letters  
Jember University as one of the requirements to get the  
award of Sarjana Sastra Degree in English Studies

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**Novi Merianita  
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## **DEDICATION**

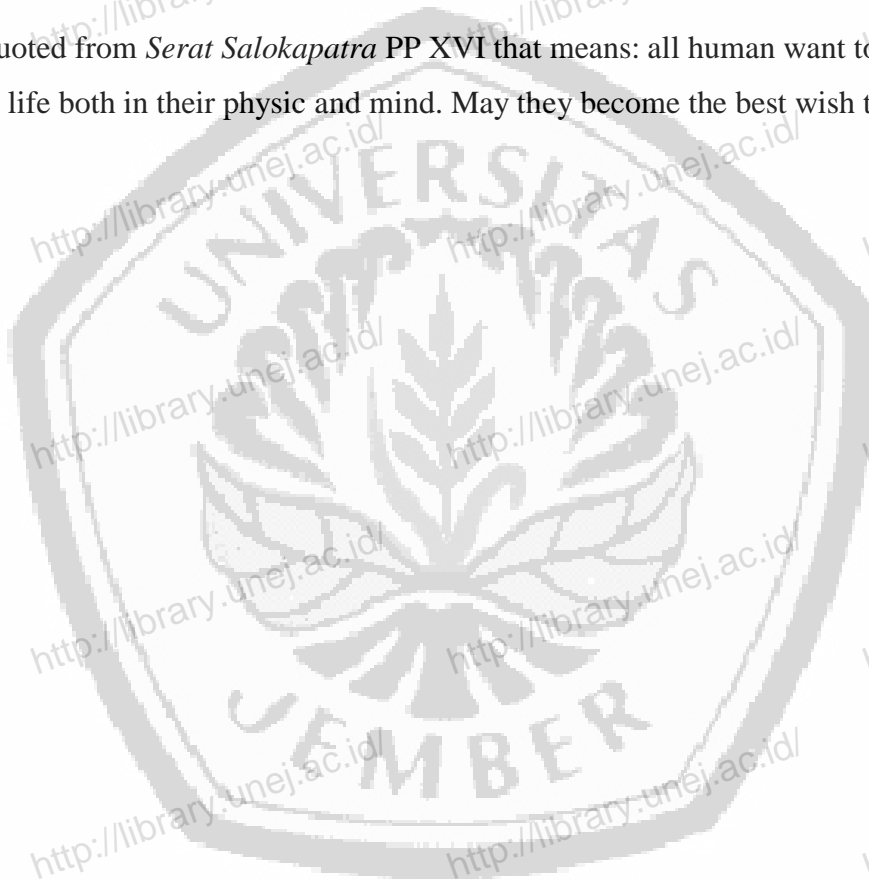
With love and sincerity, I proudly dedicate this thesis to:

1. My father, H. Abdillah Hanif Selamun, who always supports me to finish my thesis soon. Thank you for all of your attention, guidance, inspiration, and patience during my thesis writing period;
2. My mother, Hj. Siti Munawaroh, who always encourages me to be more than I can be. Thank you for your endless prayer day and night for my success, and your patience of waiting the time when I finish my study time;
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4. My husband, Endik Wahyudi, thank you for all love, support, and time that you have given to me;
5. My Alma Mater, Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

## MOTTO

*“kang satuhu yekti jelma ngangkat luhur, angkatkat lair lan batin, kekalih dadya pangunjung, kang lair wujud gusti, kang natani mring tumuwuh”*

(Quoted from *Serat Salokapatra* PP XVI that means: all human want to get better life both in their physic and mind. May they become the best wish to God)



## DECLARATION

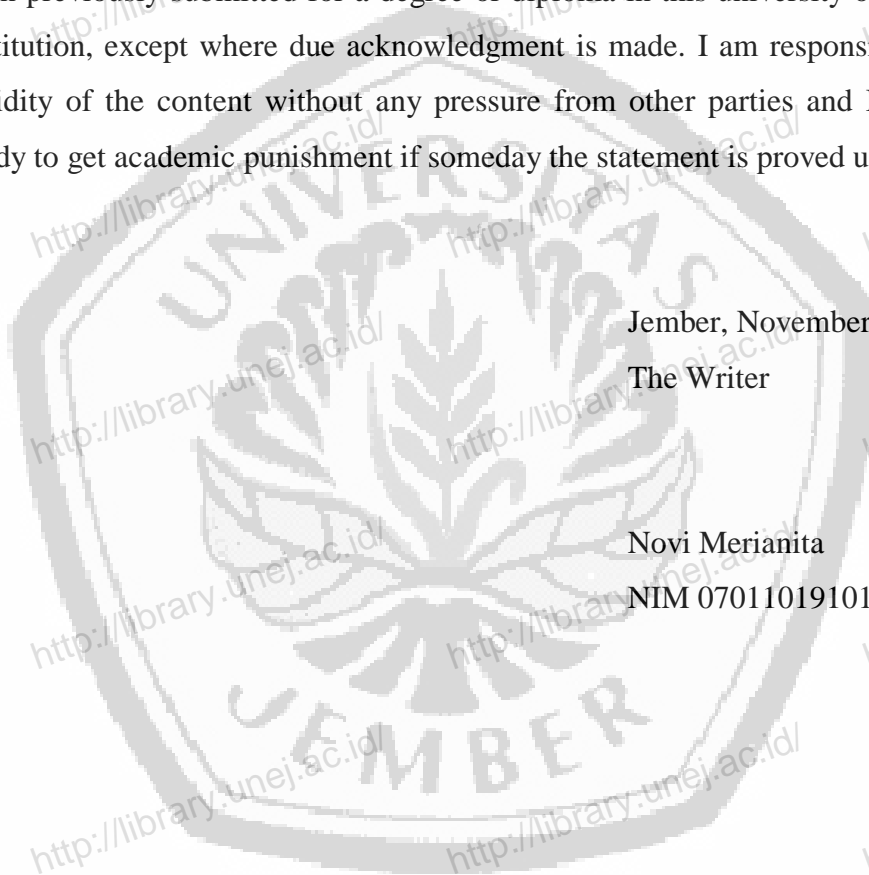
I hereby state that the thesis entitled “A Semiotic Study on *Tuwuhan* at *Tarub* Decoration of Javanese Wedding Ceremony” is an original piece of writing. The thesis represents my own work and contains no material which has been previously submitted for a degree or diploma in this university or any other institution, except where due acknowledgment is made. I am responsible for the validity of the content without any pressure from other parties and I would be ready to get academic punishment if someday the statement is proved untrue.

Jember, November 2012

The Writer

Novi Merianita

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## APPROVAL SHEET

A thesis entitled “A Semiotic Study on *Tuwuhan* at *Tarub* Decoration of Javanese Wedding Ceremony” has been approved and accepted by the examination committee of the English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University on:

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May Allah bestow the blessing upon them since it would have been impossible to complete the thesis without their support. It is realized that the thesis still needs correction, revision and improvement. Therefore, the writer appreciates any constructive criticism, suggestions and comments on the thesis for the sake of its improvement. Finally, it is hoped that the thesis will give beneficial and valuable contribution for those who are interested in conducting further studies on signification process.

Jember, November 2012

The Writer



## SUMMARY

**A Semiotic Study on *Tuwuhan* at *Tarub* Decoration at Javanese Wedding Ceremony;** Novi Merianita, 070110191016; 2012; 46 pages; English Department, the Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

As a traditional rule, the wedding party takes place in the house of the bride's parents. The bride's parents are the ones who organize the marriage ceremony. The gate of the house must be decorated with *Tarub* which consists of different *Tuwuhan* (plants and leaves), which also perform symbolic meanings. This *Tuwuhan* is put on the gate of the bride's parents one day before the wedding party, the gate of the house of the bride's parents is decorated with *Tarub* (plant decorations), which consists of different *Tuwuhan* such as Two banana trees with stem of ripe bananas, a pair of *Tebu Wulung* (reddish sugar cane), *Cengkir Gading* (very young coconut), *Uborampen Tuwuh* (different fresh leaves), such as of *Beringin* (banyan tree), *Mojo-Koro*, *Alang-alang* (tall, coarse grass), *Dadap Srep* (flowering trees).

*Tuwuhan*, as a part of *Tarub* in wedding party, has some elements considered as sign that contains semiotic potential. The signs have certain ideas behind. This thesis is conducted to reveal the relationship between the sign and the meaning of *Tuwuhan* by applying Peirce's triangle of signification. First, the writer collects some qualitative data needed like the meaning of each *Tuwuhan* and the contexts considered relevant to the sign. Secondly, the writer descriptively analyzes the data found. It is purposed to get a construction of context that may contribute to the reader's *Interpretant*. After that, the proper link between the sign, *Interpretant*, and the meaning of each *Tuwuhan* can be figured out. In addition, the classification of the sign types can also be recognized. The relationship between the *Sign* and its *Object* in fact cannot be linked without the existence of the *Interpretant*, the idea that comes out after observing a sign. The *Interpretant* itself is greatly affected by the interpreter's comprehension toward the context of the *Sign*.

The result of the research shows that the meaning of parts *Tuwuhan* can be found by using Pierce's triadic theory. Each part of *Tuwuhan* has different meaning which based on the character of the plant. *Pisang Raja* shows a wish for the couple in order to face their new life happily. *Tebu Wulung* is an expectation for the couple to get the sweetest moment in their life together and never sad. Fresh leaves convey the same message to the newly wed to live in harmony. Therefore, *Tuwuhan* shows the importance of non verbal languages in the society which performs as symbolism of wishes to the bride and the groom to live a brighter future.

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