



**A SEMIOTIC ANALYSIS ON THE RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN
THE SIGNS AND THE MEANINGS OF WAYANG
PUNAKAWAN FIGURES**

THESIS

Written By:

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**ENGLISH DEPARTMENT
FACULTY OF LETTERS
JEMBER UNIVERSITY
2011**



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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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DEDICATION

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

1. My father, Bambang Samsu Badriyanto, 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, Sundariyati, 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;
3. My only brother, Radika Samsu Wardana, thank you for being such a good guy;
4. My beloved Ullynara Zungga Vriscarini Syahvira, thank you for your prayer and supports;
5. My Alma Mater, The Faculty of Letters Jember University.

MOTTO

“mbegegeg, ugeg-ugeg, humel-humel, sak dulito, langgeng”

(Quoted from Semar’s greeting that means: Instead of being still, it is better to keep making breakthrough movement in order to reach the goal of life. Even though the achievement is under expectation, the satisfaction resulted from the great effort will last forever)

*) Hidayat, Djono. (Dalang). 2010.

DECLARATION

I hereby state that the thesis entitled “A Semiotic Analysis on the Relationship between the Signs and the Meanings of Wayang Punakawan Figures” 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 make 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, February 2011

The Writer

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APPROVAL SHEET

A thesis entitled “A Semiotic Analysis on the Relationship between the Signs and the Meanings on *Wayang* Punakawan Figures” has been approved and accepted by the examination committee of the English Department, Faculty of Letters, Jember University on:

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10. Everybody whom I cannot mention because of the limitation of space in writing the name one by one. Thank you anyway for your valuable contribution.

May Allah bestow His blessing upon them since it would have been impossible to complete the thesis without their support and help. 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 to conduct further studies on signification process.

Jember, February 2011

The Writer

SUMMARY

A Semiotic Analysis on the Relationship between the Signs and the Meanings of Wayang Punakawan Figures; Reza Samsu Pramuditya, 0601101010011; 2011: 55 pages; English Department, the Faculty of Letters, Jember University.

A sign does not stand for itself, a sign stands for another thing instead. This means that there is something else that can be revealed by observing a sign. Peirce has proposed the concept of triangle of signification. It concerns with the triadic relationship between the sign, its object, and the bridge of them called interpretant. The role of the interpretant is so essential and depends on the comprehension of the interpreter toward the context covering the sign. *Wayang kulit*, as a visual art product, 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 wayang Punakawan Figures by applying Peirce's triangle of signification. First, the writer collects some qualitative data needed like the meaning of the body parts 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 Punakawan figure can be figured out. This results clear and objective description of signification process of each sign noticed in *wayang* Punakawan figures. In addition, the classification of the sign types can be also 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.

Key words: *Semiotic, Triangle of Signification, Interpretant, Punakawan.*

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