



**SEMIOTICS ANALYSIS OF PUNJABI'S SIKH WEDDING CEREMONY AT
GURGWARA SHREE GURU NANAK DEV JI MEDAN**

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Abstract

Marriage is carried out through religious rules or customs. Almost similar to Indonesian culture which has several processions of a series of wedding ceremonies, Punjabi traditions consist of various cultural and religious customs. This research is focused on Indian wedding culture and this research was also conducted to find out what signs and symbols are found in Punjabi Sikh Wedding Ceremonies and how they are used. The theory used in this research is Pierce's Semiotics Theory. The location in this research will be conducted in Gurdwara Shree Guru Nanak Dev Ji Medan. This type of research is a qualitative research with descriptive method which aims to provide an objective description of a situation in the field with data collection techniques carried out by interviews, documentation, interviews and questionnaires.

Key word: *Semiotic, Culture, Punjabi's Sikh Wedding, Sign and Symbols, Pierce Theory*



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Abstrak

Pernikahan dilakukan melalui aturan agama atau adat istiadat. Hampir mirip dengan budaya Indonesia yang memiliki beberapa prosesi rangkaian upacara pernikahan, tradisi Punjabi terdiri dari berbagai adat budaya dan agama. Penelitian ini difokuskan pada budaya pernikahan India dan penelitian ini juga dilakukan untuk mengetahui tanda dan simbol apa saja yang ditemukan dalam Upacara Pernikahan Punjabi Sikh dan bagaimana penggunaannya. Teori yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah Teori Semiotika Pierce. Lokasi dalam penelitian ini akan dilakukan di Gurdwara Shree Guru Nanak Dev Ji Medan. Jenis penelitian ini adalah penelitian kualitatif dengan metode deskriptif yang bertujuan untuk memberikan gambaran yang objektif tentang suatu keadaan di lapangan dengan teknik pengumpulan data yang dilakukan dengan wawancara, dokumentasi, wawancara dan angket.

Kata kunci: *Semiotika, Budaya, Pernikahan Sikh Punjabi, Tanda dan Simbol, Teori Pierce.*



INTRODUCTION

In the early 19th century the Indian community is getting bigger in Indonesia. The census of the Dutch East Indian government in 1930 estimated that there were thirty thousand people of Indian descent in Indonesia. Indians come from Tamil and Punjabi Sikh. The Tamil is a community originating from India. They are generally brought in as workers in a number of plantations in the city of Medan.

In this modern era, Indonesian culture is not only influenced by local cultures such as Javanese, Malay, Bataknese and etc, but also cultures that come from others part of waria. This study is going to expose the Indian culture in Indonesia that is not widely discussed. The writer focuses on Punjabi's wedding culture. In Punjabi culture celebrating a wedding with a party of several days is not uncommon. Almost similar to Indonesian culture which has several processions of a series wedding ceremonies, Punjabi tradition consists a variety of cultural and religious customs.

In the study of culture and symbolism, this study is narrowed down to more specific subject matter, as we know, semiotics and semantic are the study of signs or symbols. Semiotics is an approach to production and interpretation of meaning. The basic principle is the meaning created from the distribution of actions and objects that become "signs" in relation to other signs. The word semantics is agreed upon as a term used for the field of linguistics which studies the relationship between linguistic signs and the things they mark, or in other words, fields of study in linguistics that study meaning or meaning in language.

Signs are words, images, sounds, gestures, and objects that are printed and spoken. The sign system formed by a complex meaning relationship that semiotics and the branch of linguistics called semantics have the same attention as the meaning of the sign. In terms of the use of symbolism in culture, the Punjabi's Wedding Ceremony is an excellent example of exercising symbolism in conveying an implied message. There is a special kind of relationship between semiotics and culture. Since semiotics is concerned with predetermined signs that all kinds can be called signs, it can be interpreted that our understanding of the world is semiotic.

METHOD

Method of the research is a way of reaching a settlement of a problem by collecting and analyzing data to achieve to desired goal. In this study, the method used is descriptive qualitative method. This qualitative research process involves important efforts such as: asking questions, developing procedures, gathering specific data from informants or participants. Inductively analyze data, reduce, verify, and interpret or capture the meaning of the context of the problem under study. This qualitative research applies an inductive



perspective, focuses on individual meanings, and translates to the complexity of a problem (Creswell, 2010:5). Data collection procedures used in this study was questionnaires, observation, interviews, and documentation.

A questionnaire is a research instrument consisting of a series questions for the purpose of gathering information from respondents. Observation can also involve the perception and recording of data via the use of scientific instruments. The term may also refer to any data collected during the scientific activity. An interview is essentially a structured conversation where one participant asks questions, and the other provides answers. Lastly, Documentation is explain or instruct regarding some attributes of an object. Documentation can be provided on paper, online, or on digital or analog media, such as audio tape or CD.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION RESULT

A. Wedding

Marriage is a sacred thing that is done by every human being in this world, including in Indonesia. Since birth in the world, humans have a tendency to live together with other humans in social life. Living together between a man and a woman is called marriage

According to Bertand Russell (2009: 51) marriage is a contract between prospective husbands and wives to fulfill their type according to the provisions that have been regulated both religiously and legally. Marriage between humans must be based on affection and understanding, whit this contact both candidates will beallowed to associates as husband and wife. Literally marriage is carried out to fulfill human needs, and to continue and have offspring.

B. Sikh Wedding

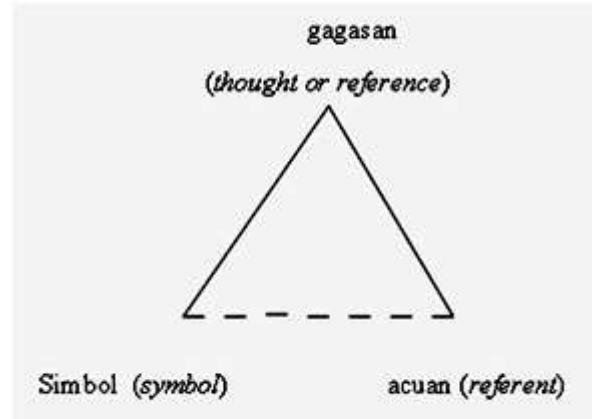
The Sikh wedding is known as “*Anand Kaarj*” which means “*Blissful Union*”. The Sikh marriage is a very colorful and unique ceremony. Sikh weddings are known for their colorful outfits because it’s a tradition to wear the traditional dress for bright colors such as blue, pink, red, and gold.

C. Semantics

Semantics is the science of meaning, discussing meaning, how the meaning of something originated, how it developed, and why changes in meaning occurred in the history of language. The meaning of language signs can be understood in terms of the origin of the meaning of language signs and the nature of the relationship between symbols and their references.

Ogden and Richard examine language signs from three sides, namely symbols (symbols), ideas (thoughts or references), and references (referent). The relation of the sign elements is depicted in the form of a triangle with the bottom

side in the form of a dotted line. The idea that is in the mind is the meaning of the language symbol.



According to Ogden and Richard, symbols represent ideas that are in the mind. The idea that is in the mind is the meaning of the language symbol. The idea refers to a reference or referent (object, activity, or something else).

A collection of knowledge of the nature and value of a literary work obtained by the compiler; it may be a collection of plays, poems, short stories, songs or quotes by different authors is called Anthology. A theory about the nature of science or a philosophy of knowledge called Epistemology and one part of the study philosophy of science that discusses the usefulness or benefits of science is called Axiology.

Table 1

No	Events	Anthology	Epistemology	Axiology
1	Maiyan (<i>Oil Ceremony</i>)	From this event we can know that Maiya is the <i>cleansing</i> ceremony where this event was taken a few days before wedding day.	Maiya has been famous from time to time where this Maiya is still carried out at Sikh weddings	From this event we can gain knowledge that this maiya is very important in a Sikh marriage because this maiya is used to beautify the couple.
2	Sangeet (<i>Music dance</i>)	From this event we can know that this event is a celebration day before wedding.	It has been famous from time to time. India country also celebrate this event before the wedding day.	This musical night is a celebration of the union, not only the couple but the bonding of both families.
3	Mahendi	A Mahendi party is a pre-	Henna has found its	Mahendi signifies



No	Events	Anthology	Epistemology	Axiology
	<i>(Henna Design)</i>	wedding event for the bride and her closest female friend and family.	place in the religions all round the world.	joyous occasions and believed to bring a good luck.
4	Sehaj Path da Bhog <i>(Prayer For The Day of Joy)</i>	When Sikh read the bhog they will get the value of peace during the wedding.	Bhogis done when the bride arrives at the temple, where the event means as a way of happiness.	To increase one's feeling of connection to the Guru.
5	Milni Kaar <i>(A Coming Together)</i>	From this even we can get the God blessing for the proposed marriage.	This is the first step of the ceremony performed by Sikhs when the groom arrives at the Gurdwara <i>(temple)</i> .	Milni is a way for two families uniting into one.
6	Laavaan <i>(Nuptial Rounds)</i>	Laavan is the prayer or hymn sung during the Anand Karaj. It also means circumambulating Guru Granth Sahib Ji, which shows that Guru Sahib is the central of the couple's.	Laava represent the fusing of the soul of bride and groom into one conscious.	from this event we learn that after we finish the laava we must be ready to carry out our promise to god
7	Anand Sahib <i>(Complete Happiness)</i>	From this event we can get the value of happiness for the couple.	The word Anand means complete happiness.	A journey for the soul.
8	Ardaas <i>(Prayer)</i>	A time for us to asking a god for what we want.	Ardaas is a general prayer for Sikh people and is read at the beginning or at the end of event.	To help us be faithful to the scriptures.
9	Hukamnama <i>(Divine Order)</i>	From here we can get orders from God after what we ask him in Prayer.	A Hukamnma refers to a hymn from the Guru Granth Sahib which is given as an order to Sikhs or a historical order given by one of the Gurus of Sikhism.	To get the answer from our prayer.
10	Karah Parshad <i>(Blessed Food)</i>	Blessed Food.	Karah Parshad is distributed to everyone.	It is a symbol showing that everyone is equal.



DISCUSSION

In this study, the writer reads some journals which have the same topic about using semiotics studies, the author summarize some previous studies that discuss semiotic and will be compared with this study. The first study “*Semiotic Analysis on The Wedding Ceremony of Batak Angkola*” by Ita Purnama Sari (2019, University of Muhammadiyah Sumatera Utara Medan). In this research paper she used Pierce’s theory to analyze the symbol, icon, and index that found in Batak Angkola wedding. The result of this study indicate that there is a meaning contained in each element of Batak Angkola in the semiotic aspect. This research resemblance to the research that I did because of the research was from the aspect of Punjabi Sikh Wedding, in using the three signs of Pierce’s theory to analyze the data.

CONCLUSION

Almost similar to Indonesian culture which has several processions of a series wedding ceremonies, Punjabi tradition consist a variety of cultural and religious customs. In the study of culture and symbolism, this study is narrowed down to more specific subject matter, as we know, semiotics is the study of signs or symbols. The sign system formed by a complex meaning relationship that semiotics and the branch of linguistics called semantics have the same attention as the meaning of the sign. The marriage ceremony in Sikh community is a wedding ceremony with party of several days because Sikh traditions consists a variety of cultural and religious customs. Customs is an implementation of ceremonies carried out for certain purposes that contain values, rules, and norms that must be obeyed. Increase the quality of culture and values in Sikh wedding ceremonies it must be carried out and preserved that the culture is not extinct. Learning and recognizing culture is the way to respect our own culture and ethnicity.

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