

# Investigating the Meaning and MESSAGES of the Mappacci Wedding Party in Buginess Tradition

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## ABSTRACT

This study examines the meaning and message of a tradition that has a very deep meaning. This thesis aims to find out the meanings and messages contained in the traditional Buginess mappacci culture in Sidenreng Rappang. This study uses qualitative research methods with analysis using the theory of Charles Sanders Pierce.

From the results of the study, it was revealed that the preparation and procession in mappacci is a Bugis custom whose implementation uses leafs, mappacci is a form of hope and prayer, for the welfare and happiness of the prospective bride and groom, which is arranged in a word summary of nine types of equipment. Pillows, silk covers, jackfruit leaves, banana shoots, pacci leaves, rice, candles, pacci holders, brown sugar, and coconut. That is the meaning contained in the mappacci ceremonial equipment which is always carried out at every Bugis traditional wedding in Sidrap Regency. Pacci leaf is a kind of plant in Indonesian, henna plant, and in Latin, it is called lawsania alba which means to clean or purify oneself.

Thus the implementation of mappacci contains a symbolic meaning of cleanliness or holiness which aims to cleanse the soul and body of the prospective bride and groom before navigating the household ark. The uniqueness of this tradition can be seen from the social stratification in the mappacci procession, namely the giving of silk sarongs where people who are not of noble descent give seven silk sarongs while those of noble descent give nine silk sarongs. The meaning and message are contained in the mappacci process because it contains a good meaning and purpose.

Based on the conclusions of the research, the researchers suggest: The Bugis community maintains the culture that has been inherited from the culture of their ancestors and it is hoped that the younger generation can preserve that culture, where the Bugis mappacci traditional wedding culture contains values and meanings for the message of life mean well.

**Keywords: Meaning and message, Culture, Mappacci Tradition**

## INTRODUCTION

Culture is a very complex and broad issue, culture is related to the way humans live, customs, and manners. Indonesian society is a society that has a variety of cultures and customs that live in social unity. Koentjaraningrat (1923-1999) Culture is a whole system of ideas and feelings, actions, and works produced by humans in social life that belong to them by learning

Indonesian society is also heterogeneous (diverse), including different customs and habits which are still maintained today. South Sulawesi is a province rich in cultural diversity. A Traditional culture that is ritual to entertainment culture. Culture is the embodiment of the reflection, hard work, and wisdom of a society in navigating its world. Culture is what makes a society able to view its environment in a meaningful way. With a cultural format too: the community organizes the surrounding nature and provides a classification so that it is meaningful to its citizens and these oriented actions towards the natural surroundings. The Society also sorts community members into groups waiting for the classification of levels and social strata in society. Each level, class, and designation in society are distinguished by a system of symbols and similarities. Symbols and similarities in society and the food consumed are not only of various kinds but are also regulated, in other words, because of culture, the environment around society and the reality in society itself are regulated and get meaning. The Society also sorts community members into groups waiting for the classification of levels and social strata in society. Each level, class, and designation in society are distinguished by a system of symbols and similarities. Symbols and similarities in society and the food consumed are not only of various kinds but are also regulated, in other words, because of culture, the environment around society and the reality in society itself are regulated and get meaning. The Society also sorts community members into groups waiting for the classification of levels and social strata in society. Each level, class, and designation in society are distinguished by a system of symbols and similarities. Symbols and similarities in society and the food consumed are not only of various kinds but are also regulated, in other words, because of culture, the environment around society and the reality in society itself are regulated and get meaning.

Many people assume that economics, politics, technology, religion, and so on are elements of culture. Such an understanding does not reveal more deeply what is contained in culture. Indeed economics, politics, art, religion, and so on are cultures because the meaningful perception contained in them is culture.

## METHODS

This study used a qualitative research design. Qualitative research methods are called new methods, because of their recent popularity, called post positivistic methods because they are based on post positivistic philosophy. This method is also called the artistic method, because the research process is more artistic (less pattern), and is referred to as interpretive research because the data from this research is more related to the interpretation of the data found in the field. Qualitative research methods are often also referred to as naturalistic research

methods. because the research is carried out in natural conditions (natural setting) it is also called the ethnographic method, because initially this method was used more for research in the field of cultural anthropology. It is called a qualitative method because the data collected and the analysis are more qualitative. Qualitative research is research that produces findings that cannot be achieved by using statistics or by qualitative means is refers to Nadirah(2022:37-38). Qualitative research is multimethod in focus, involving an interpretive naturalistic approach to its subject matter. This means that qualitative researchers study things in their natural settings, attempting to make sense of or interpret phenomena in terms of the meanings people bring to them. Qualitative research involves the studied use and collection of a variety of empirical materials—case study, personal experience introspective, life story, interview, observational, historical, interactional, and visual texts—that describe routine and problematic moments and meaning in individual lives is refers to Denzin dan Lincoln (1994).

According to Moleong (2011:4). Qualitative research is research that produces descriptive data in the form of written or spoken words consisting of observable behaviors. Qualitative research is intended to understand phenomena about something experienced by research subjects, such as behavior, perception, motivation, action, and so on under conditions scientific object and by utilizing the scientific method.

## FINDINGS

### Initial process before Mappacci

Dio Majeng ( Flower bath) is, dio means bath and majeng means flower, Dio Majeng is a flower bath that has become a custom and has been carried out for generations by the Bugis people, especially brides-to-be before carrying out a wedding. Judging from the procession of the implementation of the dio majang tradition, there are Islamic legal values, as well as, the bride and groom must dress modestly or wear Muslim clothes and signify that the bride-to-be should not be excessive in dressing and not display nakedness. The purpose of dio majeng is to purify the heart and intention in carrying out domestic life so that the household runs well and the family is always healthy and lasting in a family.

**Table 2. Mappacci Procession Results**

Object	Meaning	Message
Pillow	<i>Sipakatau</i> (mutual respect).	Hope the candidate The bride and groom always maintain their dignity and respect each other
Silk Scabbard	Istiqamah and perseverance.	The bride and groom can take lessons and wisdom from the silk sarong maker to practice in domestic life

Jackfruit leaf	Honesty, cleanliness or holiness.	May life will be passed as expected every husband and wife in a state of peace and happiness
Inai leaf ( <i>pacci</i> )	Holiness or cleanliness.	Hope the candidate the bride and groom are clean and pure in heart to take the marriage contract the next day and enter the household ark.
Jasmine rice (benno)	Well developed.	Hope the candidate The bride and groom can thrive and bathe in a staircase house that is built with love, peace, and prosperity
Candle	Give light to the path taken.	Order where the candidate is the bride and groom in their future always receive the guidance of Allah SWT
Pacci place	Two people who content each other in fostering the house stairs	hope the husband and wife pair remain united, together enjoying the pleasures of love and affection in establishing two clumps of family.
Brown sugar and coconut	Symbolizes pleasure	One taste complements each other's shortcomings and enjoys the bittersweetness of married life

Mappacci comes from the word pacci which means clean, mappacci means to clean yourself. This ceremony symbolically uses pacci (girlfriend) leaves because this event is held at night so in Bugis language, it is called "wenni mappacci" carrying out the marriage contract mappacci ceremony means that the prospective bride and groom are ready with a pure and sincere heart to enter the household realm by cleaning everything including, mappacci ati (clean heart), mappacci nawa-nawa (clean mind), mappacci pangkaukeng (clean with good behavior/deeds), mappacciateka (clean of intentions).

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