



**Identity Negotiation in Mixed Marriage Couples Between the Batak and  
Other Ethnic Without Having to Adopt a Batak's '*Marga*' (Clan)**

**THESIS**

**Compiled to meet the requirements of a Bachelor's Degree  
Communication Studies Program, Faculty of Social and Political Sciences  
Diponegoro University**

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I solemnly declare that the thesis that I have written is entitled:

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Is the result of my scientific writing, not the result of other people's scientific work or plagiarism of other people's scientific work. Suppose in the future, it turns out that the scientific work I have written is proven not to be the result of my scientific work or the result of plagiarism of other people's work. In that case, I can accept the applicable academic sanctions (revocation of graduation predicate and bachelor's degree).

Thus, I make this statement truthfully and with full awareness and responsibility.

Semarang, 12 September 2022



Olina Hartani Muliani Gultom

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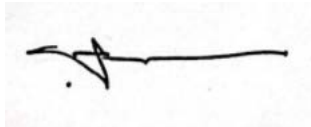
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## **MOTTO**

The things that mattered to me 10 years ago don't matter to me now. The things that matter to me now might not matter to me 10 years in the future. With that being said, why not just relax and stop worrying so much.

## **DEDICATION PAGE**

I dedicate this thesis to God, my parents, and my family, who always support and pray for me to become a great person one day.

## GRATITUDE PAGE

The best praises and gratitude to Jesus Christ, the almighty God, for giving me the strength, patience, and knowledge to face all the difficulties and accomplish my thesis.

The thesis titles “Identity Negotiation in Mixed Marriage Couples Between The Batak and Other Ethnic Without Having To Adopt A Batak’s *‘Marga’* (Clan)” to fulfill the requirements to achieve Bachelor's Degree in Communication Studies at Diponegoro University – Semarang, Indonesia.

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The researcher realizes that there are many weaknesses in the creation of this thesis. Therefore, the researcher would like to apologize for any mistakes or lack of clarity in this thesis.

The researcher hopes this thesis can benefit the readers and other interested parties.

Semarang, 12 September 2022



Olina Hartani Muliani Gultom

## ABSTRACT

**Title : Identity Negotiation in Mixed Marriage Couples Between the Batak and Other Ethnic Without Having to Adopt a Batak's 'Marga' (Clan)**

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In Indonesia, there are a variety of ethnic groups, and each one has their own traditions and cultures that they uphold. But in a rapidly increasing rate of globalization and in a densely populated country, cross-cultural marriages are bound to happen and the clash between the two cultural identities are inevitable such as the clash between the Batak tribe's ethnic's customs and other traditions in marriage. This is the reason why identity negotiations are crucial for managing the difference in traditions when a Batak person marries outside of their ethnicity to avoid conflict. This paper investigates how Batak people and other ethnicities view their '*Marga*' (clan) in marriage and how negotiations are conducted for those who opt to not use a '*Marga*' (clan). The research for this paper is conducted via the phenomenological approach that is conducted on mixed marriage couples where one is of Batak descent and another is of a different ethnicity living outside North Sumatra, the data collected are qualitative through in-depth interviews. The key findings and conclusion of this paper were that the Batak identity within individuals had decreased and began to fade, especially for those that lives outside of North Sumatra and hence do not uphold their traditions anymore. Because of this, an identity negotiation has to be conducted to try and find a compromise that is fair for both parties in a mixed marriage and this process will proceed smoothly if good communication and a supporting relationship pattern are present. The findings within this paper can be used a guide for those who wish to conduct a cross-cultural marriage without giving a '*Marga*' (clan).

**Key Words: cross-cultural, identity negotiations, traditions**



## PREAMBLE

We give thanks to the presence of God Almighty for his blessings and miracles, so that the writer can finish this thesis that is titled “**Identity Negotiation in Mixed Marriage Couples Between the Batak and Other Ethnic Without Having to Adopt a Batak’s ‘Marga’ (Clan)**”. This thesis is written with the goal of fulfilling the requirement needed to receive the title of Bachelor of Communications in the Faculty of Communication, Social, Political studies at Diponegoro University.

This thesis consists of five chapters. The first of which is the breakdown regarding the discussed topic and the plan of the research that will be conducted surrounding the background, problem formulation, purpose of the research, significance of the research, theory base, operational concept, as well as the methodology of the research that is conducted. The second chapter consists of the general description of the research that will be conducted. The third chapter consists of the textural and structural description. The fourth chapter consists of the essential meaning of the textural and structural. The fifth chapter consists of the conclusion that is drawn and the results of the research, suggestions of the parties relating to this research as well as the recommendations for the next research.

The results of the research within this thesis is hoped to contribute in the study in the field of communication studies as well as be of benefit to the couples that are in a romantic relationship of different cultural background and didn’t want having to adopt a Batak’s *Marga* (Clan).

The writer is aware that the writing in this thesis is far from perfect. Because of that, the writer hopes to receive some suggestions and critics to build and be an evaluation material for the writer in the future as well as in the thesis revisions so that it will be more of a benefit to the readers.

Semarang, 12 September 2022



Olina Hartani Muliani Gultom

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