

**ADULTS' VERSUS ELDERS' PERCEIVED UNDERSTANDING
OF THE ENDANGERED LEXICONS OF THE *KEPUS*
PUNGSED RITUAL IN MENYALI VILLAGE**

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ABSTRACT

The *Kepus Pungsed* ritual, a Balinese Hindu life-cycle ceremony performed in Menyali Village, embodies a set of culturally and spiritually significant lexicons that function as a medium for transmitting traditional knowledge. This study aims to (1) describe the level of perceived understanding of the *Kepus Pungsed* ritual lexicons among adults, (2) describe the level of perceived understanding among elders, and (3) determine whether there is a significant difference between the two groups. This research employed a quantitative comparative cross-sectional design. Data were collected through a structured questionnaire consisting of 36 ritual lexicons administered to 100 respondents, comprising 50 adults and 50 elders in Menyali Village. The data were analyzed using descriptive statistics and inferential analysis through the Mann-Whitney U test. The findings reveal a substantial generational gap in perceived understanding. Adults demonstrate a low level of perceived understanding, with 76% categorized as very low and 24% as low. In contrast, elders show a high level of perceived understanding, with 72% categorized as very high and 28% as high. The inferential analysis confirms that there is a statistically significant difference between adults and elders in their perceived understanding of the ritual lexicons. These findings indicate that the lexicons of the *Kepus Pungsed* ritual are in a vulnerable state due to the decline in comprehension among the younger adult generation. This study highlights the urgency of strengthening intergenerational transmission and suggests the integration of cultural and linguistic elements, particularly through English language education, to support the preservation and revitalization of endangered ritual lexicons.

Keywords: *Kepus Pungsed* ritual, endangered lexicons, Balinese language, cultural preservation, English language education

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Ritual Kepus Pungsed merupakan upacara siklus kehidupan dalam agama Hindu Bali yang dilaksanakan di Desa Menyali dan mengandung leksikon yang sarat makna budaya serta spiritual sebagai media transmisi pengetahuan tradisional. Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk (1) mendeskripsikan tingkat pemahaman perseptual leksikon ritual pada kelompok dewasa, (2) pada kelompok lansia, serta (3) menguji perbedaan signifikan antara keduanya. Penelitian ini menggunakan desain kuantitatif komparatif dengan pendekatan cross-sectional. Data dikumpulkan melalui kuesioner berisi 36 leksikon ritual kepada 100 responden (50 dewasa dan 50 lansia) di Desa Menyali. Analisis data dilakukan dengan statistik deskriptif dan uji Mann-Whitney U. Hasil menunjukkan adanya kesenjangan generasi yang jelas. Kelompok dewasa memiliki tingkat pemahaman rendah (76% sangat rendah, 24% rendah), sedangkan kelompok lansia menunjukkan tingkat pemahaman tinggi (72% sangat tinggi, 28% tinggi). Uji inferensial mengonfirmasi adanya perbedaan signifikan antara kedua kelompok. Temuan ini menunjukkan bahwa leksikon ritual Kepus Pungsed berada dalam kondisi rentan akibat menurunnya pemahaman pada generasi dewasa. Oleh karena itu, diperlukan penguatan transmisi antargenerasi serta integrasi unsur budaya dan linguistik, khususnya melalui pendidikan bahasa Inggris, untuk mendukung pelestarian dan revitalisasi leksikon yang terancam punah.

Kata kunci: *ritual Kepus Pungsed, leksikon terancam punah, bahasa Bali, pelestarian budaya, pendidikan bahasa Inggris*