## ABSTRACT

MUHAMMAD ADAM MUBAROQ, 2024. THE ROLE OF ORAL TRADITION IN EFFORTS TO PRESERVE THE SACRED FOREST OF KUTA TRADITIONAL VILLAGE IN KARANGPANINGAL VILLAGE, TAMBAKSARI DISTRICT, CIAMIS REGENCY. Department of Geography Education, Faculty of Teacher Training and Education. Siliwangi University Tasikmalaya.

Kuta Traditional Village, Karangpaningal Village, Tambaksari District, Ciamis Regency is one of the traditional villages that has a uniqueness in its traditions and customs in the form of Oral Traditions that have a role in efforts to preserve the Sacred Forest (Leuweung Gedè) in Kuta Traditional Village. The existence of Oral Tradition in Kuta Traditional Village has been going on for a long time from the ancestors of the Kuta Traditional Village People and has been preserved for generations until now passed on by their children and grandchildren. Oral Tradition in the Kuta Traditional Village has become a distinctive and interesting custom, where this Oral Tradition has strong belief values and norms for the Kuta Traditional Village People. The research method used in this studv is а qualitative descriptive method with data collection techniques used are observation, interviews, documentation studies, and literature studies. The subjects in this study are Traditional Leaders, Caretakers, Elders, Kuta Traditional Village People, and Ciamis Cultural Observers. The results showed that 1) The Role of Oral Tradition in Efforts to Preserve the Sacred Forest (Leuweung Gedè) Kuta Traditional Village, Karangpaningal Village, Tambaksari District, Ciamis Regency (a) Role as historical evidence, (b) the role as a community trust, (c) become a norm that regulates the social community of Kuta Traditional Village, 2) Types of Oral Traditions that strive for the preservation of the Sacred Forest (Leuweung Gedè) such as folk rhymes or songs, folklore (legends, myths), traditional speeches, folk languages, and traditional arts that concentrate on customary norms in the form of taboos or Pamali as the regulator of the lives of the Kuta Traditional Village People.

Keywords: Oral Tradition, Sacred Forest, Kuta Traditional Village