

Ritual Communication in Building Religious and Cultural Harmony.

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- **Abstract:** The ritual communication of the Babarites is one of the local wisdom of the ancestral heritage of the village of Cikalong, Parigi Subdistrict, Pangandaran Regency, which contains elements of learning about life, especially during the dry season in the month of Hapit (November). The community gathered at the crossroad with the elders, cultural activists, religious leaders, and local government figures to perform the ritual. These studies aimed to determine the meaning, values, and communication patterns in the Babarit ritual. In addition, the technique of data collection includes interviews with informants, participatory observation through direct participation in Babarit rituals, and literature study following the realities. The informants were representatives of the local government, cultural actors, traditional leaders/elders, and the local community that were deliberately selected. The results showed that Babarit was interpreted as "ngabarkeun Sarat nu irit" (informing a few requirements) in the form of food, drink, and fruit, efforts to reject disaster, gratitude to God for safety and welfare, friendship, and community brotherhood by eating together at crossroads and praying together. The values contained in the Babarit ritual are cultural values that serve as guidelines and behavioral habits. The social values formed are relations, mutual assistance, and brotherhood, and the spiritual value is formed in the glorification of God Almighty, respect for the ancestors, and gratitude.
- **Keywords:** ritual communication, Babarit ritual, Pangandaran Regency