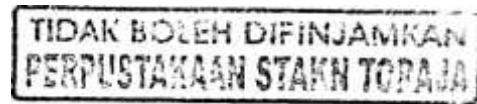


INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY

THE TOTAL DEATH OF MAN AS BODY-SOUL
IN THE CONFESSION OF THE TORAJA CHURCH

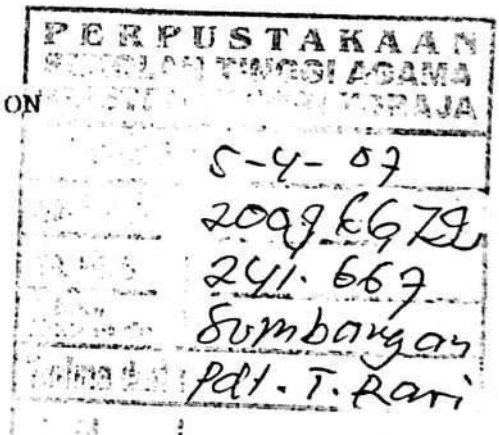


A THESIS SUBMITTED TO
THE FACULTY OF INTERNATIONAL THEOLOGICAL SEMINARY
FOR THE DEGREE OF

MASTER OF THEOLOGY

THEOLOGICAL DIVISION

B Y



TIKU RARI



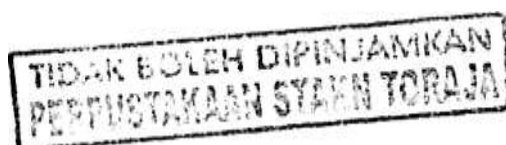
LOS ANGELES , CALIFORNIA

MAY 1994

-r

This thesis, directed and approved by the candidate's committee, has been accepted and approved by the faculty of International Theological Seminary in partial fulfillment (12 hours) of the requirements for the Degree of

MASTER OF THEOLOGY



Academic Dean

Date

STMJ

Committee

Chairman


Pdt. Titus Rari

ABSTRACT

This thesis is a study of a doctrinal problem in the Toraja Church referring to its theology of death which has been formulated firmly in the book of the Confession of the Toraja Church. The doctrinal problem is that according to the Confession of the Toraja Church, death means '*the total death of nian*¹', a statement which was originally accepted but which later came to be disputed. For the sake of the Toraja Church's integrity, we need to find some kind of theological solution-

To understand the Toraja Church, it should be kept in mind that the Toraja Church is one of the Christian Reformed Churches of Indonesia. It developed as a result of GZB's mission (*Gereformeerde Zendingsbond*, a Dutch mission institute from the *Herformde Kerk*), which could be identified as the linking up of *classical Calvinism*, *Pietism* and *ethical missiology*. The first part of this thesis tries to review the philosophical effects in the nature of the problem, especially regarding Western philosophical thought. The second part of this thesis researches what the Bible means by man and death by using a narrative approach.

The final section of this thesis emphasizes that the true Christian theology of death should be formulated firmly in our own book of confession. To disregard it means to allow philosophy to conquer over theology.