I. INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Writing

Simalungun is one of five Batak ethnics in North Sumatra. Simalungun ethnic derived from Simalungun district, North Sumatra province. Simalungun district consist of 33 sub - district. Simalungun people is separated in others city such as Siantar, TebingTinggi, Medan, Jakarta, even in the foreign countries, etc.

There are so many kinds of indigenous food in Simalungun such as DayokNabinatur, Nitak, Tinuktuk, DengkeSayur, Hinasumba, Tinombu, Pork, Lamb, and Beef. At the first, Nitak is a cake from rice flavor which mixed on the losung with aren sugar, ginger, coconut, and salt. This cake has a circle shape, triangle shape, and oval shape. Then, Tinuktuk is a traditional food in Simalungun, it may be like dry sauce which mixed on the losung and contained by ginger, pepper, rattan roof, and other various spices seasoning. After that, DengkeSayur is a traditional food with depend of gold fish and vegetable. It also cooked with the various spices seasoning. Hinasumba is a traditional food that contain by a soft cut of chicken meat and pig meat. It gives seasonings like galangal, lemongrass, and pepper. Then, Tinombu is a food which cooked in the bamboo like lemang. It is contained by a soft cut of chicken meat which mixed some seasonings like galangal, lemongrass, and so on. In this paper, I would like to introduce what Dayok Nabinatur is, and how to make it.

According to its name dayok is chicken and nabinatur is arranged. Nabinatur means how to cut the part of chicken orderly and arranged in the white plate like its
body when it still lived. *Dayok Nabinatur* has other uniqueness because it’s very interested with the *Bunga Kembang Sepatu* on top. In *Simalungun, Bunga Kembang Sepatu* (*Hibiscus rosa-sinensis* L) has the meaning as a brave, strong and spirit to someone who eat it. Cock is not only used by *Simalungun* people for their tradition food, but also pig, goat or buffalo are using for tradition food. It appropriates for each religion.

The function of *Dayok Nabinatur* is to be a food served when the custom ceremony or traditional party in *Simalungun*, such as wedding ceremony (*adat marhajabuan*), profound sorrow ceremony (*adat kematian*), build and enter the new house (*mamokkol jabu*), have in seven month pregnant (*mangalop parhorasan bani tondong*), have get a baby (*paabingkon anak bani ompung/tondong*), have get a good grade, birthday party, have confirmation in Protestant Church (*Naik Sidi*), and to honor our parents, grandmother, grandfather (*sulang-sulangnipahompm/mambere tungko tduda-duda*).

In this case, I get the sample of *Dayok Nabinatur* is using for ceremony of *Naik Sidi*. *Naik Sidi* is the one of ceremony in Christian for joining in the member of Church. In *Simalungun Batak, Naik Sidi* is the one of custom party that celebrated in the home after the ceremony in Church has done.

In this party, the girl who *Naik Sidi* will get *Dayok Nabinatur* from her mother and father. At the same time, her parents will make a wish for her so that her life will be better before and remember God whatever her condition will be. She is not only gets *Dayok Nabinatur*, but she also gives *Dayok Nabinatur* to her uncle and aunt.
When she gives it to her uncle and aunt, she will say: uncle, aunt, this is *Dayok Nabinatur* from me. It is symbolic that I have just *Naik Sidi*. Please, pray to me so my life will be arranged as the arranged of *Dayok Nabinatur*. And I will get my best future. After that, her parents will give *Dayok Nabinatur* to her brother (her *tondong*).

Simalungun Batak tribe use special kinship system, it called *Tolu Sahundulan Lima Saodoraan*. Three means (*tolu*) as the same position, Five means (*lima*) in row, which is the law covering *Tondong* (poster girl), *Boru* is the decision for taking girls, *Sanina* which implies *semarga* with someone, *Tondong nitondong* is the *besan*, *Boru niBoru* or *Boru mintori* that the child girl from girls takers. The practice of *Tolu Sahundulan Lima Saodoraan* already known in the community who later called *Simalungun*, since the time before the entry of Animism religions imported.

The research found that the background of serving *Dayok Nabinatur* as a food served in *Simalungun*. Because in the past, around 1624-1947’s, in *Purba* kingdom, *Simalungun* people didn’t know pig animal. So, they were used cock as the victim animal for their ceremony.

It’s usually let on the *para-para*. In the past, *para-para* was used by King for the place of *Dayok Nabinatur*. But nowadays, in the house of *Simalungun* people, we can found *para-para* is a place like the arranged of bamboo/wood which is used for set the plate, cup, spoon, or other tools in the kitchen. Because the chicken is used is cock so that it has symbol of brave, strong, spirit, hard work, never to give up, and authority. Beside it, it was very interested for *Simalungun* people with the characteristics of cock that used to be a sample so that it became a custom food.
Dayok Nabinatur is very meaningful. It has some social culture values for our life such as some characteristics of chicken. First, chicken know how important for sharing. It’s appeared when the hen get food, if she gets the worms, she shares to his son.

Chicken also know how important for protecting. When it rains or night, she always flights her wings as a child shelter. If the enemy comes interfere, she immediately attacked to the point of last blood for the salvation of their children. At three o’clock in morning, the cock crowing (martahuak) as a message that time is money, it means use time wisely (ulangipodomhongolapnitumba-tumba).

"If the rooster crowing (martahuak) = lifted up his head and try to see the bright. Your future much-worked with HR (Human Resources) and SDI (Faith Resources) is tough. Remember that all of God's creation hat you use in our life actually told"O man kind back to God."

And then, chicken also know how to give thanks to the God Almighty. If drinking, chicken head bowed down and lifted up. It means do not forget to the Lord thy. In the other side, the meanings of Dayok Nabinatur on the plate are: Hotma bani hundulan, Janah pongkut horjahon noliimu means (occupy position and fully carry out your duty as a father, mother, child, parent, tondong, suhut, boru, farmers, traders, workers, employees, employers, members, bureaucracy, clergy, pilgrimage Christians, Muslims, citizen, legislative, executive, judicial, students, etc. Construct a relationship of mutual need, because with one another it is a unified whole and
thorough. Avoid mutual blasphemous, negative provocations, each looking for a weakness, slander each other, mutual suspicions, selfish, permit all means, etc.

Before God nothing is hidden and do not pretend. World life is temporary so use that to get an eternal place forever in the afterlife. Transfer all of the teaching in our life, disseminate good deeds, encourage one another in a weakness.

1.2 The Problem of the Writing

The problems of this study are:

1) What are the meanings of Dayok Nabinatur for the society of Simalungun?

2) What are the functions of Dayok Nabinatur to the society of Simalungun People?

1.3 The Scope of Writing

There are many things that can discussed about the Simalungun food, to the scope of study, the writer just focused the research on the meanings and the functions of Dayok Nabinatur to the society of Simalungun people.

1.4 The Reason for Choosing the Topic

The reason of writer to choose this topic, Dayok Nabinatur is the one unique food of Simalungun people which is always served in a traditional ceremony.

1.5 The Purpose of Writing

The writer hopes that by this research/paper, young generation who is interested in culture generally traditional food specifically will understand better about it.
1.6 Review of Related Literature

Koentjoroningrat (1985:180) says, “Culture is a whole system of ideas, actions and products of human endeavor in the context of a society that used to belong to human learning.”

Taylor (1871) says that: Culture is a complex whole, in which there are knowledge, belief, art, morals, law, customs, and other capabilities acquired by a person as a member of society.

1.7 The Method of Writing

To finish this paper, the writer has done some of research. Generally, to make a paper has three research names:

a) Field Research

Field Research is a kind of research that is used to find a certain data by having survey to the informant.

b) Library Research

Library Research is a kind of research that is used to find a certain data by collecting some books and journals that relevant with the title.