

The Meaning of Kei Proverbs in Behavior of the People

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Abstract—The content of each culture can be expressed in language. Understanding to idioms and special expressions a language can to express the people habits and the way of thinking. That is through in vocabulary, figurative language, or metaphors of a language can be understood the culture of native speakers. Figurative language in culture o ethnic Kei is a proverbs, so this study aims to knowing relationship of language and culture, in this case how to Kei people describe his world which is reflected in proverbs. This study is a qualitative ethnolinguistic research method with the data sources from traditional leaders who knows well the language and culture of ethnic Kei, the data Obtained then Analyzed using content analysis approach. The result shows the meaning of Kei proverbs reflected in behavior of the people is divided into three parts; 1) Character of the people, 2) the people with their behavior, 3) the people with around situation.

Keywords: *meaning, proverbs of kei, culture, behavior of the people*

I. INTRODUCTION

Language is seen as the means to understand the culture, or in other words without language a culture can not be understood. Related between language and culture always found together, interplay, and filling each other [1]. Cultural values of verbal are preserved in the form of riddles, songs, stories, fairy tales, legends poems, epics and ballads [2]. Proverb is the essence of the wisdom and knowledge of tribes (ethnic) and used extensively in verbal culture [3]. Proverb has an effect on the way of thinking in the people as an instrument for teaching and education [4]. From the explanations above, it can be concluded the culture can be understood through proverbs, metaphors, and vocabulary [5] of language.

Generally, proverb means to delivery something indirectly message. The messages contains social norms regarding the various phenomenon its essence to described principles of life harmony of the people. This harmony of life to illustrates the human attitudes dealing with each other and the events that surround them.

Kei is one of the islands in Southeast Maluku area. Kei islands (Nuhu Evav) has separate culture and language that still preserved, one of which is proverbs. Proverbs of Kei as manifestation of the value of life people to give expressions in various aspects of life including to ethics, morals, attitudes, education, and so on in suitable with customary law

of *Larwul Ngabal* [6]. The aspects of life gets different suppression suitable with the element referenced in proverbs of Kei. Proverbs of Kei need to be studied from various aspects, namely aspects of language and culture so this study aims to describe the meaning of Kei figurative language in behavior of the life people.

II. RESEACRH METHODS

This study is a qualitative study using ethnolinguistic research methods are qualitative. Sources of the data obtained from traditional leader who knows well the language and culture of ethnic Kei. In the data collecting, researchers obtained the data from the literature of Kei figurative language and also conducted observations which complete with interview.

III. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Proverb is a short language expression, solid, and short of statements, opinions, or a general truth [7]. As an expression of solid, proverb is reflect to cultural values and ideas of the people about the environment and what is happening around them. Proverb is basically to contains original concepts from ethnic Kei reflects their way of thinking which suppose that through three parts; Character of The People, The People with their behavior, The People with Around Situation. In every data display of proverb there is Kei proverb, the meaning of Kei proverbs in Indonesia [8] proverbs, and the meaning of Kei proverbs in English language.

A. Character of The People

In character of the people found two kinds of the character people which reflected in Kei proverbs, namely the good character and the bad character. Every data can be seen in the following table.

TABLE I. DATA DISPLAY FROM PROVERBS OF KEI IN CHARACTER OF THE PEOPLE

Character of the people	Proverbs of kei (Kei language)	Meaning (Indonesia language)	Meaning (English language)
The good character	<i>Nanar afa fel hor ngain</i>	<i>tutur katanya seperti tangkai tombak</i>	The person who speaks honestly
	<i>Amalir endok wat roa ne sar</i>	<i>bangsal di pinggir pantai dan</i>	The people who like to

	<i>endok ded ratan</i>	<i>pondok di pinggir jalan</i>	help without partial
The bad character	<i>Ivun ain ru ne raan ain tel</i>	<i>perutnya bagian dan hatinya bagian</i>	what is the said opposite of his heart
	<i>Nablo fel saribat</i>	<i>lurus seperti keris</i>	the people who underhanded

In table 1, shows that every behavior of the people in ethnic Kei [9] is illustrated through different by the proverbs. Character of the people being good and bad in proverbs of Kei stated by declarative sentences [10]. Declarative sentences have the quality statement summary and clear. If the statement referred to an element or a normal situation then proverbs categorized as a good character. But if the referenced to stated a situation that is contradict with the situation, it is categorized as bad character.

B. The People With Their Behavior

In the people with their behavior found two kinds of the people with their behavior which reflected in proverb of Kei, namely positive behavior and negative behavior. Every data can be seen in the following table.

TABLE II. DATA DISPLAY KEI PROVERB OF KEI IN THE PEOPLE WITH THEIR BEHAVIOR

The people with their behavior	Proverbs of kei (Kei language)	Meaning (Indonesia language)	Meaning (English language)
Positive behavior	<i>Wu'ut ain mehe ngifun, ne manut ain mehe tilur</i>	<i>telur dari satu ikan dan satu ayam</i>	the people come from one ancestor
	<i>Tafau ken did lar entaha</i>	<i>kita kawin dengan aliran darah yang tepat</i>	in choosing a life partner to that attention to blood flow
Negative behavior	<i>Nifar nakmi fedan atbak</i>	<i>rumput kencing mematkan tembakau</i>	subordinates mistake can be hurt good name from the boss
	<i>Belan endok belan ran</i>	<i>perahu belang berada dalam perahu belang</i>	subordinates shows his power is more than his boss

In table 2, shows that positive behavior is a behavior recommended in suitable with custom law of the Kei people while negative behavior is the behavior of the people as contradict with the custom law.

Based on the proverbs above, it can be seen that negative behavior of the people proverb of kei is not expressed by imperative sentence but with a declarative sentence. Both expressed by declarative sentences. To differentiate positive behavior and negative behavior in proverb of kei can be seen from the statement of the symbol. Usually the symbol used something destructive or abnormal condition. They understand from the symbols used to describe the behavior.

C. People with the around situation

In the people with around situation found four kinds of the people with around situation which reflected in proverb of Kei, namely work and positive work, work and negative

work, luck situation, and suffering situation. Every data can be seen in the following table.

In table 3, shows in addition to advice on character of the people and the behavior, proverb of kei also advised about the the people with around situation especially shows the work situation and positive or negative working, luck situation, and suffering situation. All the situations described using declarative sentences. To distinguish between these two situations can be seen from reference symbols are used. Reference of normal symbol situation showed positive situation while the reference symbol usually indicates a situation that is not a negative situation.

TABLE III. DATA DISPLAY FROM PROVERBS OF KEI IN THE PEOPLE WITH AROUND SITUATION

The people with around situation	Proverbs of kei (Kei language)	Meaning (Indonesia language)	Meaning (English language)
Work and positive work	<i>Tangun ler enan ne manga tu'el adan tilur</i>	<i>kacang hijau kering dan sagu kering</i>	make separation before dong a job
	<i>Kes tuv har fit ne mav de rat</i>	<i>bekal untuk tujuh generasi dan merantau seratus malam</i>	prepare something for long time period
	<i>Ai ernem vakbo ngean</i>	<i>kayu berkumpul menjadi pagar dan batu berkumpul menjadi tembok</i>	with come together of all efforts, purpose, ideals, intentions will be achieved
Work and negative work	<i>Uud naklahoa bulin matan</i>	<i>memasukkan kepala kita melalui lubang jarum</i>	doing impossible to succeses work
	<i>Man hob en'or lan lelean, ne wu'ut hob refla tahit ngalaman</i>	<i>burung masih berterbangan di angkasa dan ikan masih berenang di laut dalam</i>	plan grandiose which have not been certainly succeeded
Luck Situation	<i>Met ngalavar ne lair ensong</i>	<i>meti yang luas dan tanjung yang menjorok ke laut</i>	get sustenance that abundant
	<i>Lek su entub fra hangan fak</i>	<i>jatuh di cabang empat pohon kayu besi</i>	people who have trouble but get help from others
Suffering Situation	<i>U let lor vuvur ne u tai kerbau hungar</i>	<i>meniti punggung ikan paus dan berdiri pada tanduk kerbau</i>	assume it's hard and miserable which is really hard
	<i>Ngangaar yaf ro enavun ve'e</i>	<i>membongkar api malahan membakar kebun</i>	Good will avoid danger even got more severe danger

IV. CONCLUSION

Proverb means delivery of a something indirectly message that containing social norms. The messages in provers of Kei are classified according to character of the people, the people with their behavior, the people with around situation. All of these illustrate various aspects in the life of Kei people according to their customary law, namely the law of *Larwul Ngabal*.

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