

# Analysis on the Language Maintenance in Labuhanbatu Utara for EFL Classroom

Nurul Ramadhani<sup>1\*</sup>, I WY Dirgeyasa<sup>2</sup>, Rahmad Husein<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1,2,3</sup>Post Graduate school of English Applied Linguistic Program, State Universitas of Medan, Medan, Indonesia

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding author. Email: nures262@gmail.com

## ABSTRACT

Abstract -This study discusses language maintenance issues in the context of EFL classroom. In particular, this study aims to examine the factors affecting Balinese language maintenance in the Labuhanbatu Utara. While the teacher recommends using Balinese whenever needed. The subjects were interviewed 3 Balinese students and 3 Balinese teacher about their principles and practices regarding the use of Balinese in the classroom. It uses qualitative research design. It is conducted descriptively. The use of instruments in this study were observation. The data were analyzed by using Miles and Huberman and Saldana). There are five factors affecting Balinese language maintenance in Labuhanbatu Utara namely; ethno linguistic vitality, using language in family domain, using language in religion domain, practice of traditional ceremony. Education domain. Analysis of data clearly indicates that Balinese language maintenance were done in in Desa Damuli Kebun Labuhanbatu Utara.

**Keywords:** *language maintenance, factor language maintenance, Balinese, classroom practice*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

When two or more people communicate with each other in speech, we can call the system of communication that they employ a code. In most cases that code will be something we may also want to call a language [1]. People use language as a means of expressing thought and feeling in a society. It is because language is a product of culture, which means that different cultures may have different languages or different dialects. It is also functioned to show their existence, identity and cultural in the society.

There was a body of research suggesting that mother language/L1(Balinese) use can assist second language/L2 (Indonesia/English) learning at various proficiency levels, such as providing a sense of security to learners and reducing affective barriers [2]. Language and identity are inextricable linked each other and in order to save identity, language users must attempt to save their language. Language is a basic need that plays important role in every part of human life. There are so many variety of language in the world. Indonesia as a multicultural country has so many variety of indigenous traditional language, there are around 742 ethnic languages scattered in all over Indonesia, such as in Labuhanbatu Utara. There are many ethnics groups in

Labuhanbatu Utara such as Javanese, Batakese, Malaynese, Minangnese, Acehnese, Chinese and Balinese. Balinese is just minority group in Labuhanbatu Utara, especially in dusun IV KNPI desa Damuli Kebun Kecamatan Kualuh Selatan. Based on the data of Population Percentage by Ethnic and District 2011, the majority is Javanese is 22,01 % and Batakese is 63,32 % and Balinese 0,1%.

In Labuhanbatu Utara one of the minority languages is Balinese language and the majority is Indonesia language. The people who live in Labuhanbatu Utara use Indonesia language as lingua franca. Indonesia language is uses in all aspect of communication, at school or in environment. It means that Bali language as the minority language in Labuhanbatu Utara are in danger of extinction because of the majority language that displace them or make their language are not fully used anymore. Eventhought Balinese people can maintaining their language from the conversation below.

JS : (lets us to go to school)  
(lan raga tiang lakar luas ke sekolah)

AW : (lets go, be careful on the road)  
(lan Hati – hati di marjine)

The preliminary data above shows a phenomenon that the Balinese can be maintained although there are some dominant languages, they can speak Balinese language but they more often used Indonesia language than Balinese language. It means that when Balinese is not a dominant language in communication. It is the reason the important to conduct a study on Balinese of EFL Classroom in Labuhanbatu Utara. it is important to conduct a study about Balinese language maintenance.

#### The Problem of the Study

1. What factors effect of the Balinese language maintenance in Labuhanbatu Utara for EFL classroom.

#### The Objective of the Study

1. To examine the factors effect of the Balinese language in Labuhanbatu Utara for EFL classroom

## 2. RIVIEW LITERATURE

Language maintenance is an effort in keeping the language alive by using that language continually in facing the competition among other language in society [3] Language society should keep the language alive in order to preserve the language so that the language will not turn into endangered language this because the existence of a language is depend on the effort of the language user. Language maintenance is also a part of language planning, similar to the statement of [4], "Language maintenance is one of the goals in language planning". From definition above, it can conclude that language maintenance is effort which conducted by minority group to keep using the vernacular language or maintain their language in a multicultural society that have different culture diversity and ethnic identity, and language maintenance is also can be a means of hoe to keep the existence of a language such a Balinese language.

### 2.1. Factors Affecting Language Maintenance

This study using theory by Holmes [5] They are;

- a. Ethno Linguistic Vitality  
Ethno linguistics related to the attitudes of the language users to their language.
- b. Living Together and See each Other Frequently  
By doing these activities, of course they will use their language as they have same with mother tongue.
- c. Using Language in Family Domain  
Family and parental involved are important role in the children's learning vernacular language such as Balinese.
- d. Using Language in Neighborhood Domain

The maintenance of Balinese language entailed the maintenance of the group of Balinese speaker.

#### e. Using Language in Religion Domain

Religion domain is a place for prayer, not only for praying, religion domain is also a place for discussing about the religion, laws in religion, religion organization.

#### f. Using Language in Workplace Domain

Workplace is a place for people doing interaction among the workers.

#### g. Using Language in Education Domain

In teaching learning process, it needs a language to make early in transferring knowledge, a good communication makes a good process of teaching and learning.

#### h. Practice of Traditional Ceremony

These activities support the youth generation learns about culture.

### 2.1.2. EFL Classroom

EFL is regarded as English as a Foreign Language. Stern (1983) foreign language means the language used outside the country. Learning a foreign language is for tourism, communicating with native speakers, reading foreign journals and so on. Therefore, EFL means learning English in non-English-speaking countries, while ESL means English as a second language, which has the same or even more important status as mother tongue. This study revealed, the EFL teachers can reflect on their own teaching and realize on the benefits of having character education in teaching English as a Foreign Language and language ethnic like Balinese language as identity and culture. Besides, from the techniques of inserting character education found, the EFL may adapt and adopt it to be used in inserting the character education in their own classroom. By realizing the obstacles, the EFL find the solution to overcome the problems in inserting education in teaching and learning activities and share the problems with school administrator. As the result, the school administrative and principal may provide the appropriate solution in responding the problems in inserting EFL education, such as having teacher development program to support teachers' ability in inserting education in classroom.

## 3. METHODOLOGY

This research uses descriptive qualitative method as the research design. In descriptive qualitative method, the data were systematically and accurately analyzed based on the theory applied in the study. Bogdan and Biklen (1992) explain that qualitative research is descriptive which means what is going on and what data shows. In short, descriptive method is a method which

understanding the phenomenon thought the process of observations, interviews, and other sources of information based on the collection data. The data of this study are the answer of questionnaire and the transcript of interview of Balinese people in Labuhanbatu Utara. Whereas the data sources are the 5 selected participants of Bali ethnic group in Medan that consist of 3 Balinese students and 2 Balinese teacher with various background. Purposive sampling will be used to choose the participant as it is intentionally select individuals or sites. The questionnaire and interview relate factor Balinese language maintenance for ESL classroom. In analyzing the data, the researcher used the theory that proposed by Miles, Huberman, and Saldana (2014) namely: data collection, data condensation, data display and verification and conclusion

**4. RESULT AND FINDING**

Many researchers have conducted about the language maintenance. This study also took in different language, community, and place. It can be concluded that this research had different findings with the previous study and supported by previous theories. From the findings above, there are five factors will be analyzed in this study. They are ethno linguistic vitality, language attitude, use of language in family domain, use of the religion domain and educational domain.

**Table 1.** Factors of Language Maintenance

	Factors of Language Maintenance	Respondents	Percentage
1.	Ethno Linguistic Vitality	3	60
2.	Living Together	5	100
3.	Education Domains	5	100
4.	Family Domains	5	100
5.	Religion Domains	4	80

**5. CONCLUSION**

Conclusions is drawn as the following that this study focused on the maintenance of Balinese language in Labuhanbatu Utara. It was aimed to gain the factors of maintainance Balinese language in Labuhanbatu Utara. Based on the analysis, the conclusions that are five factors maintaining Balinese language, there are: ethno linguistic vitality, language attitude, use of language in family domain (intra marriage and inter marriage), use of the language religion domain and educational domain.

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