

The Vitality of the Malayu Language on the Island of Lombok

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ABSTRACT

This research is entitled "The Vitality of the Malayu Language on the Island of Lombok". This research generally aims to provide an overview of the vitality of the Malayu language on the island of Lombok. The Malayu language on the island of Lombok is one of the minority languages on the island of Lombok. This research only focused on Melayu Bangsal and Melayu Tengah. The issue that stands out in this research is how the Malayu ethnic, as an ethnic minority on the island of Lombok, maintains their native language in competition with the majority language. This research applies sociolinguistics. The sociolinguistic theory is used to analyze the status and percentage of vitality, as well as the causes of vitality. The results of the study of the vitality of the Malayu language are expected to be the basis for making a map of the vitality of the language and efforts to protect the language. The results of the study and the language vitality map are essentially used to monitor the status of language vitality as well as to provide information to the general public that every language has a level of vitality (from safe status to extinct).

Keywords: *vitality, status, causal factors*

1. INTRODUCTION

The presence of ethnic Malayus in Lombok, which indicates that there is a Malayu language in Lombok, has not been tracked by the Summer Institute of Linguistics. However, in reality, there are ethnic Malayus in Lombok, who inhabit three enclaves, namely in Kampung Melayu Bangsal, Melayu Tengah, and Melayu Timur, located in the Central Ampenan area, Mataram City. However, this study only describes the vitality of the Malayu language in Melayu Bangsal and Melayu Tengah.

Regarding the arrival of the Malays in NTB, especially in the Ampenan area, they generally came to seek a better life than their previous place by trading. Gradually they settled down and many families followed in their footsteps until they gathered in one place. In addition to trading, some work as fishermen because it is located right on the beach (Hartini, 2007: 60).

The Lombok Malay language is the identity or identity of the Malayu ethnicity and the shaper of Malayu culture and ideology, as a form of expression used by speakers to fulfil their needs as members of society. This shows that language is tangible and evolves in a social context, which includes situations, cultures, and ideologies (Halliday 2002; Martin 1992:496; Eggin, 2004). The evolutionary nature of language and social development makes values, attitudes, ways of thinking, beliefs, cultures, and

ideologies realized in language. In other words, language is a reflection of society and implies that language is a community identity. What happens is that (human) attitudes towards language change can take the form of negative, neutral, and/or positive attitudes.

Ethnic Malayus as an ethnic minority on the island of Lombok allow the speakers of the dominant ethnicity to speak or at least they can understand or understand the language of the dominant ethnicity so as not to deny the existence of differences caused by distinctive factors, for example as a means of communication, Lombok Malayu is used as the local language, vernacular, among the majority ethnic groups. In addition, Indonesian as the official language of the government, which is used in the realm of education, the language of the media, shows that this language has a high socioeconomic status. Thus, it appears that ethnic minorities—ethnic Malayus—live in a plural society and actively engage in language contact, thus making them a multilingual society.

Ethnic minorities in a plural society, with multilingual language skills, do not always benefit from minority languages. This is due to language contact, which in turn can provide the possibility of displacement of minority languages. In a pluralistic society, there is often an unequal relationship between the minority language group and the majority language group or even with the dominant language group.

2. METHODOLOGY

This research is qualitative and quantitative. The locations of this research are Bangsal Malay and Central Malay. The researcher chose the sample by paying attention to the individual characteristics of language speakers to describe indicators of (1) speakers, (2) language contact, (3) bilingualism, (4) dominant position of the speaker community, (5) domain of language use, (6) language attitude, (7) regulation, (8) learning, (9) documentation, and (10) new media challenges.

The calculation begins with calculating the frequency and percentage of respondents' characteristics. The next calculation is to calculate the frequency and percentage of each statement item which is part of the indicator of the language vitality test. The second step is to calculate the status of the vitality of the Malay language on the island of Lombok. The third step is to calculate the Normality Test, Correlation Test, and Regression Test (T-Test).

3. ANALYSIS

The Malayu language in Lombok lives in a diversity of languages. Ethnic minorities in a plural society, with multilingual language skills, do not always benefit from minority languages. This is due to language contact, which in turn can provide the possibility of displacement of minority languages. In a pluralistic society, there is often an unequal relationship between the minority language group and the majority language group or even with the dominant language group. Language shift occurs when speakers decide to choose the language or linguistic elements from a new language to replace the old language or linguistic elements. On the other hand, language survival occurs when speakers decide to continue using the language or linguistic elements that have been used so far.

It is important to know the vitality or health of language because a healthy language can survive and play an active role in its language environment. Thus, on the one hand, it appears that ethnic minorities have a tendency to become extinct, but on the other hand it appears the importance of this minority language, both for the ethnic speaking community and for the state. The question is whether the minority language needs to be maintained or to what extent is the language maintained?

Although the first language is mastered by ethnic Malayus in Melayu Tengah, there are various languages mastered, namely as many as 20 people who speak Malayu, 18 people who speak Sasak/regional languages, and 7 people who speak Indonesian. The linguistic situation of the Malayus in Melayu Bangsal is more varied, ie 13 people speak Malayu, 11 people speak Sasak/regional, and 16 people speak Indonesian. The first language mastered by the Melayu Bangsals is

34 people who speak Malayu and 6 people who speak Indonesian.

This shows that the linguistic conditions of the Malayu on the island of Lombok are very diverse and it is certain that language contact occurs between languages whose speakers live together in an area, and language contact occurs with the dominant ethnic language. This situation causes the ethnic minority (Malayu) to speak the dominant ethnic speaker or at least they can understand the dominant ethnic language. This is what makes the Malayu ethnic group on the island of Lombok a multilingual society. In addition to language contact, bilingualism can lead to multilingualism. Bilingualism does not only mean that a person can speak in two languages, but bilingual speakers are in a diglossic situation, which refers to the two languages mastered having different statuses so that there is a choice of linguistic situations to speak one of the two. This is reflected in the use of dominant languages with high social status which can shift minority languages. Sometimes this is indirectly used by the younger generation (early adults) to leave their ethnic language.

The following is an example of the variation of the Malay language in Lombok.

Gloss	Berian	
	Melayu Tengah	Melayu Bangsal
Anjing	asu, acoŋ	asu
Engkau	ente	kaU
Gali	gali; caŋkul	ŋəkət
Cuci	basuh	nuci
daging	jaŋan	dagiŋ
dingin	ñət	diŋin
ludah	bətiju	ludah
gandeng	denden	ganderŋ
potong	pələŋ	putəŋ

From the table above, it is suspected that there are language differences between regions that use Malayu as their daily language. Melayu Tengah as an area which is referred to as the forerunner of the presence of the Malayu language on the island of Lombok has lexical differences with Melayu Bangsal.

The following will show the characteristics of respondents in the Malayu Language Vitality study on the island of Lombok based on gender, age, place of birth, ethnicity, education, occupation, place of residence, length of stay, first language, other names for the first language, and the most spoken language.

3.1 Characteristics of Malayu Tengah Respondents

The gender of the research respondents in Malayu Tengah is divided into two, namely 24 men and 23 women. The age of respondents in Malayu Tengah is divided into three categories, namely the first

generation or old adults (>60 years) totalling 15 people, the second generation of middle adults (26-59 years) amounting to 15 people, and the third generation or early adults (18-25 years old). years) totalling 15 people.

The characteristics of the respondent's place of birth in Central Malay are 45 people in Melayu Tengah. None of the respondents was born outside of Melayu Tengah. Respondents totaling 45 people are ethnic Malays in Melayu Tengah. Respondents education in Melayu Tengah is divided into five categories, namely 23 colleges, 13 high school students, 5 junior high schools, 4 elementary schools, and none of the respondents did not attend school. The characteristics of the respondent's occupations in Melayu Tengah consist of four categories, namely pensioners as many as 4 people, civil servants as many as 2 people, private or self-employed people as many as 21 people, and 18 people who do not work. All respondents in Melayu Tengah reside in Melayu Tengah. The length of stay of respondents was divided into three categories, namely < 5 years, 5-10 years, and > 10 years. The respondents of language vitality in Melayu Tengah as many as 45 people have lived in Melayu Tengah since birth or >10 years. The respondent's first language is a characteristic of verbal repertoire. The answer choices described to the respondents consisted of three answer choices, namely Malayu, Indonesian, and foreign languages. 45 people chose Malayu as the respondent's first language.

The answer choices for other names in the respondent's first language consist of 7 answer choices, namely Lombok Malayu, Arabic Malayu, Palembang Malayu, Bugis Malayu, Riau Malayu, Chinese Malayu, and others. The respondent's choice for the statement of another name for the first language is Lombok Malayu as many as 45 people. This is because respondents feel that they have lived in a Malayu village since birth.

The characteristics of the language most mastered by respondents are divided into six categories of choice, namely 1) Malayu, 2) Sasak / Regional, 3) Indonesian, 4) Arabic, 5) Chinese, and 6) foreign languages. 20 people chose Malay as the most spoken language. 18 people chose Sasak/Regional as the most mastered language. 7 people chose Indonesian as the most mastered language.

3.2 The Degree of Vitality of the Malayu Language in Melayu Tengah

Mapping the Malayu language departs from theories about vitality. Research on the vitality of

Mapping the Malay language departs from theories about vitality. Research on the vitality of language and its extinction rate relies on studies of language shift, language choice, and bilingualism. Language extinction will occur if a group of language users shifts to a new language completely so that the previous

language and its extinction rate relies on studies of language shift, language choice, and bilingualism. Language extinction will occur if a group of language users shifts to a new language completely so that the previous language is no longer used. Extinction or shift of language varies from one language to another. The ability to deal with pressure from outside and from within the language determines the level of threat and extinction of the language. Based on the explanation above, insight into the vitality of languages that are threatened with extinction requires a linguistic theory that is based on considerations of bilingualism, language domains, and language attitudes.

The vitality of language can also be seen from the realm of its use. The concept of the domain of language use can be adopted from Fishman (in Aritonang, 2013:48) which classifies the domains into five, namely the realm of family, the realm of friendship, the realm of religion, the realm of education, and the realm of work.

Wibowo (2016:141) explains that based on the domain of language use, the level of threat of a language is divided into six scales, namely:

- (1) Universal usage indicates that language is used actively in all domains,
- (2) The use of multilingualism indicates that a community has one or more languages for the official and general domains and one or more languages that are not dominant for the domains of local and more specific needs,
- (3) The domain of usage is shrinking or decreasing refers to a local language that is not dominant with the number of domains of use continuously decreasing,
- (4) The limited or formal domain shows the use of language only in a limited or formal domain, such as in the realm of religious events, rituals, and celebrations,
- (5) Very limited domain is the use of language which is limited only on certain occasions with speakers who are elderly,
- (6) Extinction which means that language does not have one domain of use anymore.

a) Lombok Malayu Vitality Status in Malayu Tengah

Table 4 Vitality Status of Lombok Malayu in Malayu Tengah

No.	Indicator				Posisi Dominan Masyarakat Penutur	position Dominant PublicSpeaker	Language Attitude				
	Influential factors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Gender										
	Man	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Susceptible	Endangered	Having a Setback
	Woman	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Endangered	Having a Setback
2.	Age										
	>60 years old	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Very Threatened	Having a Setback Kemunduran
	26—59 years old	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Mengalami Kemunduran	Very Threatened	Having a Setback
	18—25 years old	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Having a Setback	Having a Setback
3.	Education										
	College	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Susceptible	Endangered	Having a Setback
	Senior High School	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Endangered	Having a Setback
	Junior High School	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Sangat Terancam	Having a Setback
	Primary School	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Endangered	Very Threatened	Sangat Terancam	Sangat Terancam	Endangered
	No School	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
4	Work										
	Retired	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Endangered	Having a Setback
	Civil Servant	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback Kemunduran	Sangat Terancam	Endangered
	Private	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Susceptible	Endangered	Having a Setback
	Does not work	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Endangered	Having a Setback
5.	Most Mastered Language										

Melayu	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Safe	Endangered	Having a Setback
Sasak/Daerah	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Susceptible	Endangered	Having a Setback
Indonesia	Safe	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Having a Setback

Based on the correlation test, the relationship between variables X and Y on the status of language vitality is as follows.

- a) Gender is not related to the Vitality of Language with the degree of correlation does not exist, which is indicated by the value of $r = 0.002$;
- b) Age is positively related to Language Vitality with a weak correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = 0.33$;
- c) Birth, Ethnicity, Education, Occupation, Place of Residence, Length of Stay, First Language, Other Names Language, are not related to vitality because

the value is constant, which means that almost all residents of Central Malay, and;

- d) The Most Mastered Language is related to the Vitality of Language with a weak correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = 0.013$. Thus, among the X variables, which are related to language vitality in Central Malay, Age and Language are the most dominant, with a weak correlation level.

b) Lombok Malayu Vitality Status in Malayu Bangsal
Table 4 Vitality Status of Lombok Malayu in Malayu Bangsal

No.	Indicator	Speaker	Contact Language	Bilingualism	Posisi Dominan Masyarakat Penutur	position Dominant PublicSpeaker	Language Attitude	Regulation	Learning	Documentation	New Media Challenge
	Influential factors	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1.	Gender										
	Man	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered
	Woman	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
2.	Age										
	>60 years old	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered
	26—59 years old	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
	18—25 years old	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Terancam Punah	Endangered
3.	Education										
	College	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered

	Senior High School	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Susceptible	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
	Junior High School	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered
	Primary School	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Safe	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered
	No School	Having a Setback	Having a Setback	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Endangered	Susceptible	Having a Setback	Susceptible	Endangered
4	Work										
	Retired	Safe	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Safe	Very Threatened	Very Threatened	Endangered
	Civil Servant	Having a Setback	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Safe	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
	Private	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Sangat Terancam	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered
	Does not work	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Susceptible	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
5.	Most Mastered Language										
	Malayu	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered
	Sasak/Daerah	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Endangered	Endangered	Having a Setback	Very Threatened	Terancam Puhah	Endangered
	Indonesia	Susceptible	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered	Endangered	Very Threatened	Having a Setback	Endangered

Based on the correlation test, the relationship between variables X and Y on the status of language vitality in Malayu Bangsal is as follows.

- Gender is negatively related to Language Vitality with a weak correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = -0.245$;
- Age is positively related to Language Vitality with a weak correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = 0.236$;
- Education is negatively related to Language Vitality with no correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = -0.146$;
- Employment is negatively related to Language Vitality with no correlation degree, which is indicated by the value of $r = -0.135$;
- The most mastered language is positively related to the Vitality of Language with the degree of

correlation of no correlation, which is indicated by the value of $r = 0.173$.

Thus, it can be seen that language vitality in Malayu Bangsal is negatively related to gender, education, and occupation with a weak correlation level and positively related to age.

4. CONCLUSION

Ethnic Malays as a minority ethnic group on the island of Lombok live and thrive in a plural society, both majority and dominant, as well as multilingual. This shows that the ethnic majority can dominate the existence of the ethnic minority so that slowly and unconsciously the ethnic minority will lose their identity and language. which relates to language vitality in Melayu Tengah are the factors of Age and Language which are the most dominant, with a weak correlation level.

Related to the vitality of language in Malayu Tengah are the factors of Age and Language which are the most dominant, with a weak correlation level. Language Vitality in Malayu Bangsal is negatively related to Gender, Education, and Occupation with a weak correlation level and positively related to Age. The factors behind the vitality of language include 1) speakers, showing that ethnic Malay speakers on the island of Lombok have low language vitality; 2) language attitudes, related to vernacular functions, namely language as a means of communication, both in family, association and society. If language loses its vernacular function, it means that it loses its role as a means of communication. The Lombok Malayu language is no longer spoken in the realm of family, association, and society, and is replaced by the dominant language of the majority ethnic group (Sasak) and/or Indonesian; 3) Transmission from the old to the younger generations is not functioning properly. If anything, it only applies in one direction, in the realm of the family.

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