



Phonostemic Aspects of Java Traditional Food Names Based on Glutinous Rice

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Abstract. This study aims to obtain an overview of the iconic form of the name of traditional Javanese food from the phonostemic aspect. This is based on the fact that many types of traditional Javanese food still exist and are productive, especially when viewed in traditional markets, or even in certain supermarkets. Therefore, this study will describe the words of the names of traditional Javanese foods based on their phonostemic aspects. This field study research uses a qualitative descriptive method with “agih” and “padan” analysis techniques. The agih technique is to analyze data related to language elements directly, for example, words and their constituent elements used as names for traditional foods. The equivalent technique to analyze language elements compared to foreign language elements is related to the depiction of traditional name icons, especially the characters and types of traditional Javanese food. The results of this study will prove that many traditional Javanese foods are related to phonostemic processes that are adapted to the character of certain types of food.

Keywords: Javanese traditional food · phonostemic

1 Introduction

If paying attention to traditional Javanese food, it has a simple nature, both in terms of ingredients and how to process it, so that the naming is very simple. However, naming traditional food contains icons that are relevant to the character of the food itself and most of the names of these foods contain onomatopoeic and phonostemic elements. This study raises several elements of local wisdom regarding the naming of traditional Javanese foods which until now still exist in traditional markets or at celebration venues. The naming of traditional Javanese food is simple and hereditary, but has a connection between the name of the food and the character of the food being referred to. The character of the food can be found in terms of the phonostemic aspect that appears in the name of the food. Therefore, analysis of the phonostemic aspects of the names of traditional Javanese foods can relate the names of these foods to the characters of traditional foods. This is beneficial for those who are still unfamiliar with traditional Javanese food, especially the younger generation. This study will also describe the formation of words, in this case the names of foods, especially from the derivation of root words into words as traditional food names. The morphological process of word formation as the name of traditional Javanese food, will be based on the results of Brandstetter’s (1957) research [1]. In this case, the phonostemic aspect becomes the material for the analysis.

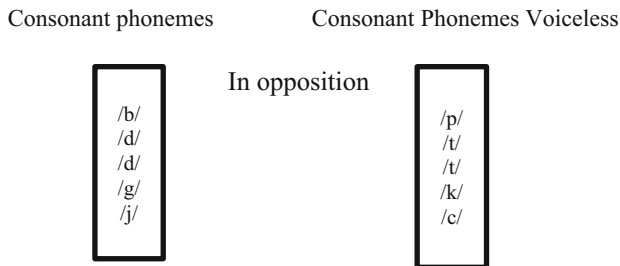
2 Phonostemic Process

Phoneme is the smallest unit of a language that serves to distinguish the meaning [2]. Phonemics can be defined as the smallest functional language unit, meaning that the phoneme unit has a function to distinguish meaning [3]. Sudaryanto (1989:39) explains that phonemes in Javanese have a role in forming onomatopoeic meanings, or words with affective, emotive, expressive values [4]. These phonemes give rise to contrasts, namely that one phoneme is determined as a different phoneme from other sounds, which is also determined as a phoneme because the two sounds in question create a contrast. In further explanation, examples of some words that show this contrast are given, such as the word *kuthuk* ‘chicken’ and the curse of ‘fish cork’. There is a contrast between the phoneme

/t/ and the phoneme */t/*.

Verhaar (2008) explains that vowels have differences due to the shape of the mouth or articulation. In connection with the articulation, Verhaar also shows the opposition between voiced consonants and voiceless consonants. The consonant oppositions are found in almost the same or homogeneous articulation places, such as consonant */b/* with */p/*, consonant */d/* with */t/*, consonant */f/* with */v/*, consonant */s/* with */z/*, consonant */c/* with */j/*, and consonant */g/* with */k/* [5].








Theory Verhaar’s opposition can be matched with Javanese phonemes [6]. The opposition is described thus:



This phoneme opposition is the basis for the study of the opposition of meaning, especially words that have these phonemes.

Regarding the iconic aspect, each of these opposing phonemes shows phonostemic symptoms. This is very evident in the affective words of the Javanese language. Sudaryanto (1989: 133) in his analysis explains that certain phonemes in some Javanese words show the impression of “heavy” and “light” [4]. An example of the phoneme */b/* in the word *abot* ‘heavy’ and the phoneme */t/* in the word *entheng* ‘light’. In terms of pronunciation, the phoneme */b/* requires more strength because it has to tense certain muscles, while the phoneme */t/* requires less strength and does not tense certain muscles. The impression of “heavy” and “light” can be equated with the impression of “big” and “small”. This is also added by Sudaryanto (1989: 122), that the pronunciation of phonemes that require energy, such as the phoneme */g/* in the word *gunung* ‘mountain’ [4].

Table 1. List of names of traditional Javanese foods

Name	Origin	Texture	Flavor	Picture
Lemper	Magelang	Springy	Tasty	
Lepet	Kendal	Springy	Tasty	
Lupis	Semarang	Springy	Tasty	
Lolos	Brebes	Springy	Sweet	
Gemblong/ Jaddah	Semarang	Springy	Tasty	
Klepon	Pasuruan	Springy	Sweet	
Rengginang	Magelang	Dry	Tasty	

Even when segmental sounds are spoken, they are never separated from the loudness or weakness of the sound. This is due to the involvement of muscle energy when the sound is spoken. A sound is said to be stressed if the muscle energy released is greater when the sound is spoken. On the other hand, a sound is said to be unstressed if the muscle energy released is less when the sound is spoken. Although in practice the loudness of the sound also affects the height of the sound, - because muscle energy also affects the tension of the vocal cords, the two suprasegmental sounds can be distinguished. The proof, hard pressure with a low tone can be spoken by speakers of the language. It really depends on its function in communication [7].

The theory of phoneme opposition and the iconic aspects of “heavy” and “light”, or “big” and “small”, can be used to examine phonostemic phenomena in Javanese words derived from onomatopoeia.

3 Results and Discussion

There are many types of traditional Javanese food made from glutinous rice. In this study, we discuss some of the names of traditional Javanese foods made from sticky rice from the phonostemic aspect. Based on the data collected, there are several names for traditional Javanese food made from sticky rice, including: lempers, lepets, lupis, lolos, gemblong, klepon, rengginang as shown in Table 1.

Referring to the concept described above that the phonostemic process is built by opposing phoneme pairs. In addition, certain phonemes produce the impression of “heavy” and “light”, namely in the example of the phoneme /b/ in the word abot and the phoneme // in simple words. Based on the data in Table 1, there are six names of foods that are made from the same and have the same texture, namely chewy or in Javanese called soft/sticky. The nature or texture of the chewy/sticky/soft texture results from the nature of the basic ingredient, namely glutinous rice. The names of these foods include: lemper, lepet, lupis, lolos, gemblong, klepon.

The six food names are phonetically supported by the phoneme //l/. The phoneme //l/ in the names of these foods produces a soft or sticky impression. In the Javanese tradition, because of their sticky nature, lemper and gemblong/jadah are used as symbols in the application tradition which is interpreted to be able to unite the prospective bride and groom who will continue to be united/attached in navigating the household ark. It is different with the word rengginan shown in Table 1. Rengginang is a type of snack that is well known by the Javanese people and has a “dry” and “hard” texture. In terms of pronunciation, the phoneme /r/ is one of the lightest phonemes. In addition, phonemically the phoneme /r/ produces a dry and hard impression, other examples such as krupuk, kripik, krecek, rambak, and others.

So, based on the naming of traditional Javanese food described above, names such as lemper, lepet, lupis, lolos, gemblong/jadah, klepon, and rengginan as traditional foods made from glutinous rice indicate a phonostemic process. The process results from the phoneme //l/ which is in opposition to the phoneme /r/. The phoneme //l/ gives a soft or sticky impression while /r/ makes a hard or dry impression. In addition, when viewed from the method of manufacture, the name gemblong/jadah is formed in large units. In contrast to the klepon, which is in the process of making it, it is formed in small circles. Thus, the presence of the phoneme /g/ in the word gemblong or often referred to as jadah produces a large impression in Javanese called gedhe, while the phoneme /k/ in the word klepon produces a small impression. In this case, the phoneme /g/ is in opposition to the phoneme /k/. The phoneme /g/ makes the impression big/gedhe and the phoneme /k/ makes the impression small.

4 Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis of the phonostemic aspects of the names of traditional Javanese foods in the table above, namely lemper, lepet, lupis, lolos, gemblong, klepon, and rengginan, it was found that there were four impressions on the nature of the food, namely; 1) flaccid/sticky produced by the presence of the phoneme //l/; 2) hard/dry produced by the presence of the phoneme /r/; 3) big/gedhe is produced by the presence of the phoneme /g/; and 4) small that is produced by the presence of the phoneme /k/. Thus, it can be concluded that the process of naming the types of traditional Javanese food as above, was born based on a phenomenon that can be accepted logically. This returns to the concept that language is a thought process.

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