

## **AN ANALYSIS OF DEAD WORDS OF MINANGKABAUNESE IN *KOTO TABANG-PARIAMAN* DIALECT**

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### **Abstrak**

Penelitian ini berawal dari kenyataan bahwa banyaknya generasi muda tidak mengerti kosakata yang digunakan oleh generasi tua sehingga terjadinya kesalahpahaman dalam berkomunikasi. Tujuan dari penelitian ini menemukan kosakata arkais pada generasi muda di *Koto Tabang* dialek *Pariaman* dari bahasa Minangkabau. Penelitian ini menggunakan pendekatan deskriptif kualitatif yang penjabaran data dipaparkan dalam bentuk penjelasan dan pengelompokan data. Data berupa kosakata dikumpulkan dari generasi tua ( $\geq 50$  tahun) sejumlah 210 kata. Kemudian diberikan ke generasi muda (12-20 tahun) untuk melihat tipe dari kosakata arkais yang terjadi di generasi muda. Berdasarkan hasil penelitian ditemukan, 38 kosakata arkais (18,09%), 20 semi-arkais (9,52%), 101 kata aktif (48,09%). Ada empat kelas kosakata yang ditemukan dari 210 kosakata arkais, yakni kata kerja, sifat, benda dan keterangan. Kelas kosakata kata benda merupakan yang paling banyak muncul dengan bermacam variasi seperti kata dari kategori pakaian, asesoris, dan peralatan rumah tangga. Adanya kosakata arkais disebabkan oleh beberapa faktor seperti rendahnya fungsi dari bahasa itu sendiri, perkawinan antar etnik, Bahasa Indonesia, menurunnya jumlah generasi tua, dan meningkatnya jumlah generasi muda.

Kata Kunci: Dialect, dead words, and lexical words classes.

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## **A. Introduction**

A language is important for human life. It is used for communication to get information. According to Yaguello (1998:6), language is used for communication to share information for many reasons. The reason is to enhance the relationship with other or depend on the individual and groups of the society who want the information. For instances, they have purpose only to enrich the knowledge or collect the information.

Language has variations which are called dialect. According to Wardhaugh (2006:40), dialect is parts of a language. It means a language has many variations. One of language variation is found in Minangkabaunese which is *Pariaman* dialect. This dialect is spoken in many villages in *Pariaman*. One of the villages is *Koto Tabang*. It is one particular area in *Pariaman*, which is about seven kilometers from *Pariaman* city. The society in that area is the farmers, breeders and only a few do business or work in offices. The numbers of the inhabitant are around 90 families. Mostly, the inhabitants in *Koto Tabang* are native speakers or indigenous people.

Although the society is native, mostly of the young generations are difficult to understand some words which is spoken. According to Biber, *et al* (2002:13-15), a word has one or more morphemes. Morphemes are the part of words such as stem, prefixes and suffixes. Moreover, there is a term for emphasizing what the words mean which is called orthographic words. They refer to the words which are in written language. He adds that there are four lexical words classes such as verb to describe an action; adjective describes the quality of thing; adverb to show a place, time or manner; noun describes an abstract or concrete thing.

In fact, there are some words which lose in the society. The phenomenon of losing the words is called dead words. According to Fromkin *et al* (2007:476-477), the dead words occur because there is nobody pay attention to that words and is never used and loss. It means these words are never used or anymore. One of example is the word *bilanggu* 'handcuffs'. This word is still used by the old people in communication while it is never used by young generation anymore. As a result, there is misunderstanding both old people and young generations

There are three main points of the problems. First, what are the dead words based on lexical words classes and the lexical meanings of the dead words which are found in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. Second, what are the substitution words which are used by young generation to replace the dead words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. The last, which words belong to the semi-dead words and active words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. In this case, the writer finds and explains the dead words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Miangkabaunese.

## **B. Research Methodology**

Descriptive qualitative research is aimed to describe the dead words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. Herbert and Elana Shohamy (1989:124-125) say that descriptive research is a way which is used to describe the result of research without manipulation. In addition, According to Dörnyei (2007:37), qualitative research works with a wide range of data for instances recorded interviews, images, and several of texts such as field notes, journal, and document. Because of the data are dead words which are never used anymore by the speaker of *Koto Tabang*, especially young generation. It was only used by old people who live in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. The informants are categorized into two. The first is the old people (55 years old or more than 55 years old). The second informant is the young generation (12-20 years old). Therefore, the design of this research is descriptive qualitative method because during data processing, mostly of the data transform and describe into a textual form about the dead words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese.

## **C. Findings**

### **1. Dead words**

There are 38 dead words found in *Koto Tabang*. These words are never used and never heard anymore by young generation. There are four lexical words classes. First, there are 11 dead words in verb category such as *maangai* 'take a sit near a fireplace', and *mandonceang* 'jumping'. Second, there are nine dead words in adjective, for instances *hampo* 'empty', and *alisen* 'insane'. Third, there is one word comes dead word of adverb category like *nyolonge* 'at first'. Fourth, there are 17 dead words of noun in nine categories. First, there are three dead words of clothes category such *amban* 'long cloth which is used for binding stomach'. Second, there are two dead words of accessories category such *cimango* 'a bundle of wool or pandanus leafs'. Third, there are three dead words of home appliance category such *pasu* 'washbasin'. Then, there are two dead words of addressing category for instances *udo* 'a calling to brother'. Next, there is one dead word of transportation category for example *kutangin* 'bicycle'. Furthermore, there are two dead words of small equipments category like *bilanggu* 'handcuffs'. Then, there is one dead word of position category like *pakang* 'broker'. Next, there is one dead word of impurity category such *langek* 'feces'. The last, there are two dead words of cutting wood category like *palupuah* 'cutting of bamboo'.

In short, there are four lexical words classes appear in 38 (18, 09%) of dead words occur in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabau. They are verbs, adjectives, adverbs, and nouns in their variations (clothes, accessories, home appliance, addressing, transportation, small equipments, position, impurity, and cutting of wood). Furthermore, there is no lexical words classes of nouns occur as the dead words, especially in categories of school equipment, animal, building, part of building, part of body, part of coconut, and the yard.

## **2. Current Use of Words from Young Generation**

The current use of words means the words which are used by the young generations as substitution or to replace the dead words. The substitution words are based on the young informants. These words are used by young generation in communication. For example, the words *amban* is replaced by the words *kain pangabek paruik* because its function as binding the stomach especially for women after gave a birth a baby. *Cimango* is substituted by the words *panambah sanggua*. The word *puro* is replaced by the words *beha basingletan*. The word *maniak tangan* is replaced by using the words *galang*.

In conclusion, the current use of word means the words which are used by the young generation. It is used to replace the dead words such as the words *sagalimiang*, *sanginik*, *sabuak* are replaced by the word *saketek*.

## **3. Semi Dead Word and Active Words**

Semi-dead words mean the words which are ever heard but they are never used by young generation. There are 20 semi-dead words found and categorized into lexical words classes such verb, adjective, and noun in it categories. First, there are six semi-dead words in verbs category such as *mangungkuang* 'crying' and *mangando* 'widower'. Second, there are two semi-dead words of adjective category such as *cengeh* 'handsome or pretty' and *tacilak* 'looks bright (skin)'. Third, there are 12 semi-dead words of nouns in seven categories. First, there is one semi-dead word of clothes category such as *songkok* 'hat'. Second, there is one semi-dead word of home appliance category such as *kudo-kudo* 'long wood chair'. Third, there are two semi-dead words of transportation category such as *kapatabang* 'plane'. Furthermore, there is one semi-dead word of school equipment, for instances *pulupen* 'pen'. Then, there are two semi-dead words of kitchen utensil category, for instances *pinggan* 'plate'. Next, there is one semi-dead word of building category like *tansi* 'prison'. There are three semi-dead words of small equipment category like *jongkoang* 'brooch'. The last, there is one semi-dead words of part of body category like *lancik* 'hip'.

Active words refer to the words which are ever heard and used by young generations. There are 102 words as active words among 210 words. There are four categories of active words based on lexical words classes. They are verb, adverb, adjective and nouns in their categories. First, there are 12 active words of verbs category such as *maambua* 'jumping' and *kajamban* 'urinate'. Second, there are 16 active words of adjective, for instances *gimbo* 'jungle' and *lambiak* 'soft'. Third, there are four active words of adverbs such as *kamai* 'here' and *ingkin* 'there'. Fourth, there are 69 nouns among 15 categories of nouns such as clothes (*sarawa* 'trouser'), accessories (*sikek* 'comb'), transportation (*padati* 'cart'), fruit (*limau* 'orange'), spices (*langkueh* 'galangale'), animal (*baghuak* 'monkey'), kitchen utensil (*tungkahan* 'a piece of wood for sitting'), small equipment (*samek* 'brooch'), part of body (*lutuang* 'knee'), cutting of wood (*buluah* 'small cutting of bamboo'), part of building (*daropon* 'ventilation'), building (*gulang-gulang* 'hut'), the yard (*pakubuan* 'the grave yard').

In conclusion, there are three lexical words classes of semi-dead words such as verbs, adjectives, and nouns. Noun becomes the most common on semi-dead words. Furthermore, there is no adverb category occurs in semi-dead words and there is no semi-dead words occur in noun especially in category of accessories, fruit, spices, animal, addressing, and part of building, impurity, position, cutting of wood, the yard, and part of coconut. On the other hand, active words have four lexical words classes such as nouns, adverbs, adjectives, verbs. There are some categories of noun which mostly all of the items belong to active words such as fruit, spices, color, and animal category.

#### **D. Discussion**

Based on the situation in the field of this research, there are some factors of dead words occur in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese. The first is decreasing numbers of old generation who loyal, fluently and always use their first language in communication. As a result, there is nobody anymore who fluently and loyal to use their language anymore. This situation makes the dead words occur.

Second is increasing numbers of young generations who do not fluently use their own language. They do not know many vocabularies and do not fluently use their first language. Even though that language is their first language, many of them do not fluently use it in communication. These cases become the causes of the dead words.

Third is decreasing function of the language. There are several reasons that make the decreasing function of language. First, because the prestige.

Second, the young generations use Bahasa Indonesia as second or formal language at least at school. Third, the languages which are used in writing letters and many books which are used in learning at school mostly use Bahasa Indonesia. From the cases, it can be seen that the function of language which is used by speaker in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese become decrease. As a result, there are many dead words occur.

Furthermore, intermarriage is the next factor the dead words occur in *Koto Tabang*. When the intermarriage occurs in directly the language that use both the bride and bridegroom are different. In the daily life, they use two languages in communication. In this case, there is one from both languages would low function. So, the low function of the one language makes the dead word occur.

Next, Bahasa Indonesia is the factor for the dead words. There is other language that has power such Bahasa Indonesia. Bahasa Indonesia is as formal language use in Indonesia. It use at school, offices, write letters, and books whether for education or other purposes. The young generations use the books that use Bahasa Indonesia in learning at school. In addition, the young generations also use Bahasa Indonesia at school to communicate at least to the teacher. This cases influence the dead words occur in a language.

In conclusion, there are five factors influence the dead words occur in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese such as increasing numbers of young generations, decreasing numbers of old generations, low respect to the language or the decreasing function of the language intermarriage, and Bahasa Indonesia.

## **E. Conclusions**

Based on the finding about dead words in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabanese, it can be concluded that there are four lexical words classes appear such as adjective, verb, adverbs and noun in its categories (clothes, accessories, home appliance, transportation, fruits, vegetables, school equipment, color, animal, kitchen utensils, building, addressing, part of body, impurity, position, cutting of wood, the yard, part of coconut, part of building, and other small equipment). There is one category of lexical words class become the most common occur in the part of dead words. It is noun in nine categories such as clothes, transportation, home appliance, small equipments, addressing, impurity, position, and cutting of wood category.

In addition, there are five factors influence the dead words occur in *Koto Tabang* as part of *Pariaman* dialect of Minangkabaunese such as increasing numbers of young generations, decreasing numbers of old generations low

respect to the language or the decreasing function of the language, intermarriage, and Bahasa Indonesia.

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