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# THE LEXICAL COMPARISON BETWEEN TEBING TINGGI SUB-DIALECT IN DHARMASRAYA AND THE STANDARD MINANGKABAUNESE

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#### **ABSTRACT**

The purpose of this research was (1) to identify the lexical differences of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect in Dharmasraya compared to the standard Minangkabaunese (2) to identify the lexical similarities between Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese. In this paper the researcher used descriptive method; it is possible to compare two dialects so that we can found the differences, the uniqueness of lexical changes, and the vocabulary similarities. From the research that has been done, the researcher used 127 sample data to see the lexical differences and similarities that exist in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect compared to the standard Minangkabaunese. From the sample the researcher found that Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect often use phoneme /o/ at the first syllable of the word compared to the standard Minangkabaunese that often use phoneme /a/, phoneme /r/ in the standard Minangkabaunese changes to /w/ and /y/ in the middle of the word, and phoneme /a/ changes to /au/ and /iu/ at the end of the word; and from the sample data the researcher also found the similarities in some vocabulary used by Tebing Tinggi subdialect and the standard Minangkabaunese. From this paper the researcher hope that this paper can be useful in learning as an additional knowledge in learning Dialectology.

**Keywords**: Lexical Comparison, Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the Standard Minangkabaunese

### A. INTRODUCTION

People use language to communicate and interact in their daily life. Through language, we can show our point of view, our understanding of a thing, the origin of our nation and state, even our nature. Therefore, this



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behavior cannot be separated from human life. Yandra (2013:186) say that language as a medium for communication has a great variety purposes; one of them is that by using language people can exchange experiences and they can organize others well.

The way of communication among people by using language is different in each area. For example, the Minangkabau language; although Minangkabau people use the same language to communicate each other called the Minangkabau language, but it has some differences from each area that make the Minangkabau language has many dialects. According to Canfield (2009:4), dialects possess a vast number of variations, and understanding them can better help a person understand not only what someone with a strong dialect is saying, but also another aspirations, education, culture and background as well. Language variation or dialectal variation refers to changes in language due to various influences. These include social, geographic, individual and group factors. One of the causes of language variation is a social factor. A social factor can make differences between one area with the other area happen. Every region has its own language and characteristics. These characteristics are also different in a small area in a region even though they have same standard language. It proves that there is one standard language for one area and this standard language has another part which occurs as the variation of the language itself.

We can take an example from Dharmasraya. Dharmasraya is one of the regency in West Sumatera, Indonesia. There are many dialects/accents in Dharmasraya, although still in the same area, but some villages or 'kenagarian' in Dharmasraya has a different sub dialect. We can see the differences, for example, from the words they use, accent or rhythm, and suffixes used. One of many villages in Dharmasraya that has a different dialect with the other villages is Tebing Tinggi. Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect has uniqueness than the other dialects in Dharmasraya. This dialect has its own characteristics compared to other dialects from the words they use, accent or rhythm, and suffixes used. If we compared Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect with the standard Minangkabaunese we can find differences between these dialects. The cause of these dialect differences is due to social, geographic, individual and group factors. Other factors can also occur because the use of language as a means of communication is also strongly influenced by the culture of each individual involved, both as communicators and communicants.

### 1. Dialect

A dialect is a variety of language that differs from other dialects of varieties in three specific ways: lexis (vocabulary), grammar (structure), and phonology (pronunciation or accent). The changes and variations in a dialect can be caused by the diversity of social interaction activities by speakers, culture, and social factor. According to Holmes (1995:194) dialect is simply linguistics varieties which are distinguished in vocabulary, grammar, and pronunciation; the speech of people from different social. As well as regional, groups may differ in this way.

## 2. Regional Dialect

There are two kinds of dialect; they can be regional dialect and social dialect. Regional dialect is geographically based. It means that a dialect that differs because of geographical area. The differences can be in term of pronunciation, choice of words, and syntax. Nordquist (2017) defines a regional dialect is a distinct form of a language spoken in one particular area of a country.

Chamber J.K *et al* (1980:6) states that dialects on the outer edges of the geographical area may be mutually intelligible but their ways will be linked by a chain of mutual intelligibility and dialects are not mutually intelligible, but cumulative effect of the linguistics differences will be such that the greater the geographically separation, the greater the comprehension. It emphasizes that dialects is influenced by geographically and cooperation by people in the rural or in one area.

#### 3. Social Dialect

The term *dialect* can also be used to describe differences in speech associated with various social groups or classes. There are social dialects as well as regional dialects. Whereas regional dialects are geographically based, social dialects originate from social groups and depend on a variety of factors, the principal ones apparently being social class, religion, and ethnicity. Social dialect is a variety of language that reflects social variation in language use, according to certain factors related to the social group of the speaker such as education, occupation, income level etc. A social dialect is also known as sociolect.

Siegel (2010: 5) defined a social dialect is a variety of a language spoken by a particular group based on social characteristics other than geography, for example, the dialect of women with the adolescent dialect or dialect of the executives with the common dialect of the ordinary people. From this explanation, it is described that social dialect relate to its speakers social background rather than geographical background and the speakers speaks are in accordance with their social group.

### 4. Lexical Meaning

Language is a collection of the phrases that contains of lexical and every language has lexical that is different with other language. Lexical itself relates to the original meaning and is not influenced with context in the phrase. Lexical meaning refers to the sense (or meaning) of a word (or lexeme) as it appears in a dictionary.

Pateda (1996:119) defined that lexical meaning or semantic meaning, or external meaning, is the meaning of the word when the word stands alone, either in the form of a lexeme or a fixed form whose meanings are more or less fixed, as can be read in the dictionary specific language. The lexical meaning of a word is contained in a stand-alone word. Is it said to stand on its own because the meaning of a word can change when the word is in the sentence. Thus, there are words whose lexical meaning can be understood if the words are already constructed with other words.

Hutton (2014) says one common way to explain the meaning of a word (lexical meaning) is by the identification of a synonym, that is, a word with the same or a similar meaning. Lexical meaning is the meaning of a word considered in isolation from the sentence containing it and regardless of its grammatical context, e.g., of *love* in or as represented by *loves*, *loved*, *loving*, etc. However, lexical meaning in linguistics is the meaning of a word in relation to the physical world or to abstract concepts, without reference to any sentence in which the word may occur. Chaer (1994:1) said that lexical is the meaning that corresponds to the reference, meaning in accordance with the results of the observation of the senses or the true meaning in our lives.

In conclusion, it can be said that lexical is the original meaning from every word and there is no context that binds the word itself. Lexical also is called as the word that has real meaning. The lexical or word is something that is in our mind that there is no context that influences the meaning and the lexical is relate to the original meaning of a word that appears in a dictionary. For example, the word love as represent of words loves, and loved.

## 5. The Minangkabau Language

The Minangkabau language is a local language or mother tongue of Minangkabau people, it is also as a tool of communication in daily interaction, as symbol of identity of local culture, as symbol of identity of West Sumatra as one of the ethnic in Indonesia, and as an introductory language in elementary school (Isman et.al, 1978:51).

According to Jufrizal (2007:6-7), the Minangkabau language is surrounded by some other languages that belong to West Malay Polynesia. He adds that the Minangkabaunese use the Minangkabau language in their daily interaction such as in the economic, trade and socio cultural situation. While Indonesian use in the formal situation and the specific time required.

So, Minangkabau language is used by people around West Sumatera to communicate each other as a standard language in West Sumatera. Although the Minangkabau language itself has several other sub-dialects, but people in West Sumatera usually understand them. For example, Padang dialect, people in West Sumatera usually understand Padang dialect because this dialect is used as the standard Minangkabaunese dialect.

### **B. RESEARCH METHOD**

In this paper the researcher used a descriptive method; the data of the research were recorded during the observation for about two months. The researcher observed directly to the field, listening and recording the conversation of Tebing Tinggi and the standard Minangkabaunese native speakers. In this paper, the researcher wanted to show the differences and similarities between Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the Minangkabaunese. So that, the researcher took notes about the words used by Tebing Tinggi native speakers and compared them to the standard Minangkabaunese native speakers to find the lexical differences and similarities between Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese.

The data were analyzed by followed the following steps: (1) transcribing the recorded data into the written form vocabularies and sorting it into table (2) finding the differences and similarities between Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese (3) making conclusion after comparing the dialect used in Tebing Tinggi and the standard Minangkabaunese.

#### C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

## 1. Research Finding (tentative)

#### 1.1 Lexical Differences

The data show that there are some phenomena that make Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect different with the standard Minangkabaunese, for example some vocabulary items of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect are used phoneme /o/ at the first syllable of the word while it is different with the standard Minangkabaunese that mostly use phoneme /a/ at the first syllable of the word. Some of the examples of lexical differences of sub-dialect Tebing Tinggi in comparison to the standard Minangkabaunese can be seen on the list below:

## a. Phoneme /a/ changes into /o/ at the first syllable of the word

In many words of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect there is a phenomenon that phoneme /a/ changes into /o/ at the first syllable of the word. Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi often uses phoneme /o/ at the first syllable different from the standard Minangkabaunese that often use phoneme /a/ at the first syllable of the word. The example provide in table below:

Table 1: Phoneme /a/ changes into /o/ at the first syllable of the word.

Standa <mark>rd</mark> Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Mancik /mancik/	Moncik/moncik/	'mouse'
Lalok /lalok/	Lolok /lolok/	'sleep'
Tagak /tagak/	Togak /togak/	'stand'
Galak /galak/	Golak /golak/	'laugh'
Kaki /kaki/	Koki /koki/	'foot'
Laweh/laweh/	Loweh/loweh/	'wide'

It is clear in the data that phoneme /a/ in the standard Minangkabaunese changed into /o/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. Native speakers in Tebing Tinggi hardly use phoneme /a/ at the first syllable; they usually changed it into phoneme /o/. This is the characteristics of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect compared with the standard Minangkabaunese.

## b. Phoneme /r/ Changes into /w/ in the middle of the word

In some words of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect the researcher noticed that phoneme /r/ in the middle of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese changes into phoneme /w/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. Some of the example of the differences can be seen in the list below:

Table 2: Phoneme /r/ changes into /w/ in the middle of the word

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Buruak /buruak/	Buwuak /buwuak/	'ugly'
Baruak /baruak/	Bowuak /bowuak/	'monkey'
Sorang/sorang/	Sowang /sowang/	'a, self, own, alone'
Bareh /bareh/	Boweh /boweh/	'hulled rice'
Kareh /kareh/	Kowe /kowe/	'hard'

Based on the data above it can be concluded that phoneme /r/ in the middle of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese changes into phoneme /w/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. For example, lexical /murah/ 'cheap' in the standard Minangkabaunese will change into lexical /muwah/ 'cheap' in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. This phenomenon occurs in the middle of the word and the sound changes do not change the meaning of the word itself.

### c. Phoneme /r/ changes into /y/ in the middle of the word

The differences in the standard Minangkabaunese and Tebing Tinggi subdialect also occur in the phoneme /r/ which is change into /y/ in the middle of the word. It can be studied from the following list:

Table 3: Phoneme /r/ changes into /y/ in the middle of the word.

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Kariang /kariang/	Koyiang /koyiang/	'dry'
Durian /durian/	Duyian /duyian/	'durian'
Jariang /jariang/	Joyiang/joyiang/	ʻjengkol'
Balari /balari/	Balayi /balayi/	'run'
Cari /cari/	Cayi /cayi/	'look for'

From the table above, it is clear that phoneme /r/ in the middle of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese changes become phoneme /y/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. It must be notice that the changes only occurs in the middle of the word.

### d. Phoneme /a/ changes into /au/ at the end of the word

In Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect, most of phoneme /a/ at the end of the word in standard Minangkabaunese is pronounced /au/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. The examples provide in the table below:

Table 4: Phoneme /a/ changes into /au/ at the end of the word

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Manuka /manuka/	Manukau /manukau/	'change, exchange, barter'
Manjua /manjua/	Menjau /menjau/	'sell, deal'
Maaja /maaja/	Maajau /maaj <mark>au</mark> /	'teach, train'
Mandanga /mandanga/	Mandongau /mandongau/	'listen, hear, noted'

From the data above it can be concluded that phoneme /a/ at the end of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese become phoneme /au/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. The phenomena show the changes of phoneme /a/ change into /au/. The phenomenon occurs at the end of the words that makes phoneme /a/ change /au/ without change the meaning of the words.

### e. Phoneme /a/ changes into /iu/ at the end of the word

Other differences that occurs in the standard Minangkabaunese and Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect is phoneme /a/ changes into phoneme /iu/ at the end of the word in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. It can be seen in the following list:

Table 5: Phoneme /a/ changes into /iu/ at the end of the word.

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Bayia /bayia/	Bayiu /bayiu/	'pay'
Ayia /ayia/	Ayiu /ayiu/	'water'
Gambia /gambia/	Gambiu/gambiu/	'gambier'
Nyinyia /nyinyia/	Nyinyiu /nyinyiu/	'talkative, garrulous'
Takilia /takilia/	Takiliu /takiliu/	'be sprained'

Based on the data above, it is clear that phoneme /a/ at the end of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese changes into phoneme /iu/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. This is characteristic of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect that most of phoneme /a/ at the end of the word in the standard Minangkabaunese changes into phoneme /iu/. However, this change does not change the meaning.

## f. Uniqueness vocabulary changes

Other characteristics of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect is from the vocabulary. There are several lexical or unique words in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect that difference if we compare it to the standard Minangkabaunese. The example of these differences can be seen in the list below:

Table 6: uniqueness vocabulary changes

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Paruik /paruik/	Powik /powik/	'stomach'
Balanyah /balanyah/	Loca /loca/	'muddy, sloshy'
Licin/licin/	Linciu /linciu/	'slippery'
Tatangkuik /tatangkuik/	Tatunu /tatunu/	'flat on face'
Sehat /sehat/	Siyai /siyai/	'healthy'

From the data above it is clear that Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect have some differences in lexical from the standard Minangkabaunese. For example, lexical /sapu/ 'broom' in the standard Minangkabaunese change into lexical /sepai/ 'broom' in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect, and also lexical /tamuek/ 'load' in the standard Minangkabaunese change into lexical /temiak/ 'load' in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. In this case, some words in the standard Minangkabaunese totally change in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect.

#### 1.2 Lexical Similarities

Although many vocabulary items from Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect different with the standard Minangkabaunese, these two dialects still have similarities in some words. These lexical usually have similarities because they are from borrowing words or name of things. Some of the example can be seen in the list below:

Table 7: Lexical similarities

Standard Minangkabaunese	Sub-dialect of Tebing Tinggi	Translation in English
Pagi /pagi/	Pagi /pagi/	'morning'
Siang /siang/	Siang /siang/	'day, daylight

		period'
Malam /malam/	Malam/malam/	'night'
Kareta /kareta/	Kareta/kareta/	'bicycle'
Singo /singo/	Singo /singo/	'lion'

From the data above, it can be seen that Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect not only has differences but also similarities with the standard Minangkabaunese. Not only do they have similarities in the lexical but also it has similar meaning. In the analysis of the lexical, the data that have been analyzed exactly has similar vocabulary and pronunciation between the standard Minangkabaunese and Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and also has same meaning.

### 2. Discussion

In short, the researcher assumed that the people in Tebing Tinggi hardly use phoneme /a/ in the first syllable and sometimes change sound /r/ become /w/ or /y/ in the middle of the word. Then, sound /a/ at the end of the lexical in the standard Minangkabaunese will change into sound /au/ or /iu/ at the end of the lexical of Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect in many words. The researcher analyze that the data mostly show the lexical differences between Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect with the standard Minangkabaunese. These differences make Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect becomes a unique dialect that have many unique lexical. It makes this local language is known for its own characteristic. Not only have differences Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect also have similarities with the standard Minangkabaunese. In some words, these two dialects have same pronunciation as well as same meaning.

#### D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

After the researcher did the observation and analyzed the data, it can be concluded that Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese have differences as well as similarities. From the discussion and finding of this research, it can be concluded that:

- 1. Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect is unique. It can be seen from the vocabulary use by people in Tebing Tinggi, they usually have vocabulary change or full lexicon change. It has many differences with the standard Minangkabaunese but also have some similarities.
- 2. There are six types of differences in using language by Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese: (a) Phoneme /a/ in the standard Minangkabaunese changes into /o/ at the first syllable of the word in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect; (b) Phoneme /r/ in the middle of the word in standard Minangkabaunese changes into /w/ in sub-dialect Tebing Tinggi; (c) Phoneme /r/ in the middle of the word in standard Minangkabaunese changes into /y/ in sub-dialect Tebing Tinggi; (d) Sound /a/ at the end of the word in standard Minangkabaunese changes into /au/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect; (e) Sound /a/ at the end of the

word in standard Minangkabaunese changes into /iu/ in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect; (f) Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect have differences in the vocabulary with the standard Minangkabaunese or uniqueness vocabulary changes.

#### 1. For the reader

This paper is about a study of lexical comparison of sub-dialect and standard language in one province that can be used as a reference if the reader wants to do a research in dialect. It may be useful for the reader who interest and wants to enrich the knowledge about language variation and how to compare two dialects in lexical aspect. The reader can study more about it through dialectology.

#### 2. For the researcher

For the next or other researchers who are interested in this aspect of study can use this paper as an escort. There are many more aspects that can be research in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect. Further researchers need to conduct more data and enrich the development of lexical phenomenon in Tebing Tinggi sub-dialect.

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