



## **THE COMPARATIVE ANALYSIS OF SOCIAL DIALECT OF MINANGKABAUNESE USED BY EMPLOYEES AND LABOURERS IN PADANG**

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### **Abstract**

Social dialect is a branch of dialectology discusses about different language used because of social socio-economic background and educational background. From those background differences, it turns out to cause linguistic phenomena in the use of language which is one of the symbols as a determinant of social status. Most researchers have studied about different language used due to social status that discussed the language variety, meanwhile in this research the different language used is discussed in three aspect such as different diction, different pronunciation and different suprasegmental (stress) between employees and labourers in Padang. The method used in this research is by provoking the informant to utter the words researcher intended by using interview guideline. The data are words that are explained in comparative description form. The result of this research is there are found 5 types of different diction, 3 types of different pronunciation with the same diction and 3 types of different stressed sound with the same diction used between employees and labourers in Padang.

**Key words:** Social dialect, Diction, Suprasegmental features, Minangkabaunese Minangkabau language

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

Social status has a level called social hierarchy. This is related to the social environment, the higher the social level of a person, the better the social environment they get. This social environment affects a person's habits that can be seen from aspects of values, norms and customs which also determine the roles of a person. One aspect of the influence of the social environment related to this research is custom. Custom means discussing about the tradition or habit, or in a large scope, customs can be said to be a culture. Language is closely related to

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social, to socialize people using language. Society related to the environment, giving rise to habits, habits mean a culture. All of these things prove that language cannot be separated from culture and society. By the existence of the society, humans have differences in the social environment or social stratification due to differences of their backgrounds. This social environment differences result a social status paradigm, social status of someone distinguishes the social environment, and the social environment influences language.

One of the consequences of social status is language, the expression of the language used by humans illustrate the tendency of the speaking community. To learn and explain language, it must necessarily involve social aspects that portray the community, such as in terms of hierarchy of social structure, social order, social status, education level, age, economic level and gender. Fishman in Chaer (2004:3) says sociolinguistics is the study of the characteristics of language varieties, the characteristics of their functions, and the characteristics of their speakers. This shows that sociolinguistics views language as a social system and communication system as well is part of the community, not only about the language but also who speak the language. Labov (1972) and Halliday (1973) declare not associating language with social means narrowing the view to the discipline of language itself. The reason is that language has a social function, besides as a tool to communicate, it is also to determine identity of someone.

According to Omika (2012), there are two divisions to group the social status. First, according to Karl Max, the classification of society is divided into three groups. First, the capitalist or bourgeois groups are people who control the land and production tool. Second, the middle class consists of government employees and the last is proletariat is people who do not own land, including labourers and factory workers. According to Karl max, the middle class tends to be included in the capitalist group, thus there are only two groups of people namely the capitalist and proletarian groups. Second, in the United States of America, groups of people are divided into six classes, namely,

1. Upper-upper class: a family that has long been rich
2. Lower-upper class: not long ago became rich
3. Upper-middle class: entrepreneur
4. Lower-middle class: government employees, supervisors
5. Upper-lower class: permanent worker (class of workers)
6. Lower-lower class: temporary workers, unemployed, labourers

Based on the social diversity of the status, it turns out to cause linguistic phenomena namely the creation of differences in the use of language which is one of the symbols as a determinant of social status. This research analyzed the comparison different language used between the employees and the labourers. Based on the classification above, employees and labourers are in the different social status. Thus, the researcher made attention to the language used approach to social dialect.

This research analyzed the language used between employees and labourers. Employees in this research were the people who worked in the office whose have a position like a head of division or manager and the labourers were the people who worked as building constructor. Both of them had significantly

different social status seen from education level and socio-economic level. Employees are the people who have occupation due to their good education, they are graduated from university, people who have been graduated and have occupation, have high salary than labourers, because of that the employees have high economic level than the labourers. Economic level also influences life environment or social class, while labourers are the people who work out of the building, this job is kind of hard physical work, they have no good education or did not graduate from university, and labourers are the people who have life environment no better than employees and are in low social class than the employees. These significant differences influence language are different that is called as sociolect or social dialect seen from their social status.

There are some researches related to this research. First, a research from Nurzaman (2017) discussed about language variation that happen in Palabuhan Ratu, Sukabumi. This language variation was classified based on different social status, they are fisherman, trader and buyer. The result of this research is that among those three classes of social status occurred the language variation which varied diction and varied language used. The second study is from D.P Ramendra (2012) analyzed the language level used in Bali by caste (triwangsa). This research described the variation of language used in Singaraja speech community, type, jobs and age also explained the factors that influence such variation. The result of the research in Singaraja is there are three variations of language from low class, middle class and high class.

However, this study is related to those researches. If Nurzaman (2017) and Ramendra (2012) just discuss about the language variation, this research explains more about the language variation in detail that is highly important to do because it is rarely to discuss and it explored the phenomena of language in society based on sociolinguistic paradigm not only by the different diction but also analyzing the pronunciation and suprasegmental aspect. It needs to be analyzed further in order to prove that language can be identified by seeing the social status. Sociolinguistic study shows that group identity is a very important factor in many changes. This is actually a usual case in daily life, many people used language in difference because of some factors to show their social stratification. Social dialect is lack of attention to be analyzed, particularly to the workers in Padang. Because of the factors of their work such as the work environment, the education level and also their life environment, thus language used is formed unconsciously different between them. This research described how the diction, pronunciation and suprasegmental aspect (stress) are different because of different social status. The purposes of this research are to find out the differences of diction, differences of pronunciation and difference of suprasegmental aspect (stress).

## **B. RESEARCH METHOD**

The sources of the data were the employees and labourers. The data of this research was in the form of words obtained from recorded conversation. There were ten informants, thus there were five informants from employees and five informants from labourers. This research analyzed the different language used

by linguistic side; those are diction, pronunciation and suprasegmental aspect (stress). In this research, the employees were the people worked in TVRI SUMBAR and the labourers were the people who worked as building labourer. To get the data, every informant was given some questions made by the interviewer in order to provoke the words that researcher intended. Thus, from the dialogue, the existence of language phenomena was seen, because by the direct dialogue, it gave the characteristics of language.

The researcher identified, classified and analyzed the data. First, the researcher identified the diction uttered by the employees and the labourers which dictions should be exist in the list of diction between five employees and five labourers. The diction was obtained based on interview guideline which was not different semantically, then grouping the data into the table based on some types of differences of diction. For differences of pronunciation, the researcher identified the data based on the same choice of words between employees and labourers that were made in the form of phonetic transcription to see the pronunciation then describe it in comparative description. After that, analyzing suprasegmental aspect (stress), the researcher analyzed the stress with the same choice of words between employees and labourers that had different in stressed sound that was made in the form of phonetic transcription for suprasegmental. Therefore, there were three classifications; those were differences of diction, pronunciation and suprasegmental aspect (stress) between employees and labourers that were put in the form of table.

## C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

### 1. Research Finding

#### A. Differences of diction between employees and labourers in Padang

After analyzing the data, the researcher obtained five types of different dictions. First, there were several dictions which were not found by the employees but the labourers uttered such kind of dictions. Second, there were also dictions which were not found by the labourers but by the employees. Third, there were differences of diction because of additional vowel in the middle syllable. Fourth, there were five informants of labourers said the same diction but was not uttered by five employees utterly. Fifth, there were few dictions were only uttered once by one person both from employees and labourers, it meant that diction can be said the only word that exist from the ten informants. The findings of different diction are presented in the table below:

**Table 1. Finding table of different diction**

No	Differences of Diction	Total of diction
1	Different diction of labourers that was not found to the employees	31

2	Different diction of employees that was not found to the labourers	11
3	Different diction because of additional vowel	2
4	Different diction that five labourers said the same but did not to employees utterly	1
5	Different diction that only uttered once both from employees and labourers	5

The researcher found that there are five types of differences. Those are 31 dictions that was not found by the employees but uttered by the labourers such the word *jari mati*, *dukuah*, *bakodak*, *tarika*, *abuak*, *almanak*, *pituluik*, *kuro-kuro*, *cawek*, *gincu*, *tundo*, *poik bungo*, *galia*, *kanciang baju*, *kalikih*, *saroman*, *abak*, *kaciak*, *cibuak*, *kupiang*, *laidik*, *daguak*, *mandeh*, *kepeang*, *ongeh*, *sehaik*, *cegak*, *malinteh*, *ciluah*, *dipan* and *andia*; 11 dictions that was not found by the labourers but by the employees such as the words *licik*, *menyebrang*, *tamak*, *motor*, *kumis*, *ngintip*, *kantong* and *bloon*; 2 dictions because of additional vowel in the middle syllable such as the word *kangkung* uttered by the labourers and *kangkuang* uttered by the employees, then the word *kancing baju* uttered by the employees and *kanciang baju* uttered by the labourers; 1 diction that five labourers said the same but did not to the employees said utterly such as the word *abak* which means ‘father’ meanwhile employees said *apak* and *ayah*, the word *abak* was not exist; 5 dictions that only uttered once in the list of diction both from employees and labourers such as the word *tamak*, *ngintip*, *kantong*, *bloon* uttered by the employees and the word *jari mati* uttered by one labourer. Both labourers and employees mostly have different in choice of word.

## B. Differences of pronunciation between employees and labourers in Padang

After analyzing the differences of diction, the researcher analyzed the differences of pronunciation. There are three types of differences in pronunciation:

**Table 2. Finding table of different pronunciation**

No	Differences of Pronunciation	Total of diction
1	Phoneme /u/ and /u:/ then /i/ and /i:/	5
2	Phoneme /k/ and /ʔ/	1
3	Phoneme /e/ and /ə/	1

In the analysis of this part, researcher found three types differences of different pronunciation with the same dictions. There are five words that different in pronunciation because of the different phoneme used between /u/ and /u:/ then /i/ and /i:/ such as [bùáh bàdzú], [ràwíʔ], [màtí], [pitíh], [pècí] which uttered by employees and [bùáh bàdzú:], [ràwí:ʔ], [màtí:], [pití:h], [pècí:] which uttered by labourers, those all have the same meaning. Based on the example, labourers often make stress or extension to the word that has pronunciation of vowel sound at the end, it is seen the difference from the phoneme /u:/ and /u/ then /i:/ and /i/.

There are also one word found that different in pronunciation because of the different phoneme used between /k/ and /ʔ/ such as [kátàʔ], [kódòʔ] were uttered by the labourers and [kátàk], [kódòk] were uttered by the employees; one word found that different in pronunciation because of different phoneme used between /e/ and /ə/ such as the word *gembok* that uttered by employees as [gəmbóʔ] and uttered by labourers as [gèmbóʔ].

### C. Differences of suprasegmental aspect (stress) between employees and labourers in Padang

The last analysis of this research is the analysis of different suprasegmental aspect (stress) between employees and labourers. The researcher found that there are found three differences of stress with the same diction:

**Table 13. Finding table of different suprasegmental aspect (stress)**

No	Differences of suprasegmental aspect (stress)	Total of diction
1	two-syllable	7
2	three-syllable	2
3	four-syllable	1

Based on the table above, between employees and labourers, it is found 7 words different of stress in two-syllable that the stressed sound of employees more occurred in the first syllable such as [kètèʔ], [láuàʔ], [rákúih], [kàdzài], [bódòh] while labourers, it is found that the stressed sound more occurred in the second syllable such as [kètéʔ], [làuáʔ], [ràkúih], [kàdzái]; 2 words different of stress in three-syllable such as there are differences for the word *manikah*, employees tended to say it with [mánikáh] which describes the stressed sound is in the first and last syllable while labourers tended to say it with [mànikáh] which describes the stressed sound only occurred in the last syllable. The word *kalender*, employees tended to say it with [kàlèndér] which describes the stressed sound only occurred in last syllable while labourers tended to say it with [kálèndér] which describes the stressed sound occurred in the first and last syllable; 1 word different of stress in four-syllable such as the word *manyubarang*, employees tended to say [mànyùbàràŋ] which describe the stressed sound is placed in the last

syllable, while labourers tended to say [máɲùbàráŋ] which describes the stressed sound is placed in the first and last syllable. Based on all different stressed sound of the 10 words found, it can be concluded that between employees and labourers are almost different in the term of suprasegmental aspect (stress).

## 2. Discussion

The findings of the study describe the language used between the people who are in different social status. Based on the analysis in the previous pages, it can be seen that in the first analysis about differences of diction, there are five types of differences. There is obtained the diction used by labourers but was not found by employees otherwise there were dictions used by employees but was not found by labourers. In that case, differences occur because employees sometimes use Indonesian language while labourers did not have diction in Indonesian language. According to Campbell in Aspo (2017), the pivotal reason why language borrows words from another language is for prestige, because foreign term in some reason is considered better. From that statement, it can be analogised that employees used words in Indonesian language because the status and position of Indonesian language is a national language in Indonesia. Thus, using Indonesian language rather than local language like Minangkabau language is seems prestigious. In this study, the most use of Indonesian language was found in language used of the employees not the labourers.

This research was conducted in Padang and the informants were who live in Padang. In this study, the phenomenon of language differences occurred between people who differed in social status. As have been stated before in the previous chapter, Jufrizal (2012) says people who use Indonesian language as their daily language are people in middle to upper class families especially in the cities of Padang. Therefore, as mentioned in the previous chapter that the social status of employee is classified in middle to upper class, thus in their daily lives, an employee often uses Indonesian language in speaking unwittingly, even though they had been asked that the interview was in Minangkabau language, employees still used Indonesian language and sometimes was not consistent to the language they used, for example the word *ayah* which means ‘father’ uttered by employees is Indonesian language, while in Minangkabau language to say ‘father’, Minangkabau says *apak* and *abak*. The word *abak* was uttered by labourers, not by employees. Referring to this phenomenon, other examples are the word such as *tamak*, *ngintip*, *kantong* and *bloon* uttered by employees that used Indonesian language.

Besides, the differences of diction can also be seen from educational backgrounds. The employees were the people who undergo formal education to the level of university, some are bachelor and some are magister. Meanwhile the labourers carried out their education not up to the level of university, some of them only graduated from high school and even elementary school. For example the word ‘deaf’ and ‘death’, both words refer to the words that contain feelings of value. To convey the word ‘death’, two labourers said *mati* and none of employees said *mati*, they said *maningga* instead *mati*. The word ‘deaf’, all of

labourers said *pakak* and two employees said *pakak*. From that example, it explains the different used of diction and the different amount of used of diction between employees and labourers. In Minangkabau language, to the human that has passed away is called *maningga* while *mati* is appropriate to animal not human. In the interview before, the question asked about the human not animal, but the result that some labourers uttered *mati* and none of employees said *mati*. The word *pakak* in Minangkabau language also includes to the harsh word. Based on the data obtained, all of labourers said the same diction, *pakak* while to the employees there are only two people said *pakak*. In this case, employees tended to say appropriate words than labourer. As Lindawati (2015:11) states, how to speak the high educated people can indeed be seen in the difference with the way of languages of people who are less educated.

In another case, such as the word *ongeh*, *dukuah*, *kalikih*, etc as in Table 5, the labourers uttered the words that employees did not mention. It means Minangkabau language uttered by labourers are rarely used or rarely heard by employees. This case is influenced by social environment that is different from the employees. As stated by Radford (1999:20), sociolinguistics is the study of the relationship between language use and structure of society and Holmes (2001:1), sociolinguistics is study the relationship between language and society. It explains that language has very close relationship with society. The social environment of labourer is different from the employee. Employee communicates more frequently with fellow employee and otherwise labourer also communicates more frequently with fellow labourer. An office environment is a formal environment where people often communicate using formal language, that is Indonesian language, while labourer environment is very different from the employee, working as a labourer does not need to pay attention to the language as it should, it is only to express opinions with the language as it is, and generally the labourer speaks with their fellowmen, use Minangkabau language. Labourers have identical words that Minangkabau language is strongly attached and stiff than employees.

For second analysis about the differences of pronunciation between employees and labourers, there are three types of differences found with the same dictions. In a case of different pronunciation such as the words [kátàk], [kódòk], [lipstík], etc uttered by employee and [kátàʔ], [kódòʔ], [lipstíʔ], etc uttered by labourer as in table 9, it is found different pronunciation in the same diction. It can be seen labourers have the same pattern that different from employees. This case is influenced by the social status and social environment. The language used from employees has their similarities and the language used from the labourers has their similarities, it is proven from the different pronunciation, labourers have the same pattern of the use of phoneme and also the employees have the same pattern of the use of phoneme. According to Hudson (1996:42,43&184), a speaker may be more similar in language to people from the same social group in a different area than to people from different social group in the same area. Pronunciation also makes difference of social function; it plays different roles on individual's acts of identity to which they referred.



For third analysis, there is also found the different suprasegmental aspect (stress) between employees and labourers as in table 10. It is the same with different pronunciation, there are similarities of stress of fellow employees and similarities of stress of fellow labourers. It means the employees have the same pattern of stress and also the labourers. Lindawati (2015:25) states, Minangkabau language is diverse. The diversity is caused due to the factors of place, function, and society of the speaker. The difference from one variant to other variants can be seen from segmental and supra segmental element. Segmentally, it can be seen from the structure of syntax and diction. Suprasegmental differences can be seen from the pronunciation and intonation systems.

#### **D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS**

This research was conducted to figure out the comparison in the level of diction, pronunciation included suprasegmental aspect (stress) between employees and labourers in Padang. The researcher concludes that the diction, pronunciation and suprasegmental aspect of employees and labourers are the component of language that differ the language used seen from social status. Several words that are used by labourers are not found by the employees and otherwise. Almost half of all diction obtained different between them. Besides, the differences of pronunciation and stressed sound of the same choice of word between employees and labourers are also found the differences.

Generally, the differences of diction between the employees and the labourers is because employees used Indonesian language more often than labourers, besides that Minangkabau language used by the labourers is a language that is not mentioned by the employees, it because the diction is rarely spoken in the social environment of the employee. The pronunciation and the stressed sound are also different, this variation also occurs because social dialect is not only different from segmental aspect but also suprasegmental aspect.

The result of this study brings some suggestions to a lot of side. The researcher expects that the thesis can be a beneficial reference for the reader which provides the study of social dialect. It is suggested that the next researchers can develop their research related to this subject in different perspective. Because of the result of this study shows that there are differences of language used in different social status, it suggests that the next researchers can research social dialect in different perspective, such as related to the politeness or impoliteness strategies of language used and analyze the supra-segmental aspect in the wide scope such as in the form of a phrase or sentence. Moreover, the researcher hopes that this research is an interesting research concern because the research about social dialect is still lack of attention.

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