



THE LANGUAGE ATTITUDE OF THE FARMERS OF ALAHAN PANJANG TOWARD THEIR INDONESIAN

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ABSTRACT

This paper aims to identify the attitudes of farmers towards Indonesian language in Alahan Panjang and factors of what makes the farmers in Alahan Panjang had an attitude. This research was descriptive quantitative field that describes the attitude of farmer opinion against the phenomenon of language attitude occurred. This attitude derived from the distribution of research questionnaires and interviews to farmers in Alahan Panjang which has business associates in Indonesian language. Their age restrictions on farmers is between 30-55 years. The results showed 92 out of a total of 100 farmers in Alahan Panjang were used as participants in the study showed a negative attitude towards Indonesian. They are not proud and do not want to use the Indonesian language in which they are located. There are several factors that cause these farmers Indonesian negative towards such social factors, a situation the use of language, gender, prestige, and cultural factors. The results of this study prove that farmers in Alahan Panjang do not want to use the Indonesian language in communication. They will only use the Indonesian language when communicating with people who only understand Indonesian.

Keywords: *Language Attitude, Gender, Prestige.*

A. INTRODUCTION

Language is a human system of communication that uses arbitrary signals, such as voice sounds, gestures, or written symbols. That means language is an important part of human life. In addition language has many functions to human being, such as to share information, to interact, to express their idea, their emotion, their feeling and then they can communicate and share information, their knowledge, their experience for each other people. Language can be defined as verbal, physical, biologically innate, and a basic form of communication. "Behaviourists often define language as a learned

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behaviour involving a stimulus and a response' (Ormrod,1995). "Often times they will refer to language as verbal behaviour, which is language that includes gestures and body movements as well as spoken word" (Pierce & Eplin 1999).

Without a language, actually people cannot communicate each other, they can not share information or ideas and they can not express their feelings to each other. Although, several people using a code to communicate each other, but it is not effective. Because it can only be understood by them and of certainly not all of people understand with each code.

Another factor that causes different codes is attitude. Attitude are what people think, feel, and how they are doing something in a certain situation. In attitudes closely related to language. The attitudes are what people feel, think, and how they are doing something or in a certain situation. Someone's attitude can be seen by how they are speaking. The language attitudes are how people feel toward their language.

The farmers in Alahan Panjang is rarely use the national language. It makes they can not communicate using national language well. For example as writer found in the field, when farmer talked with his business partner who come from Jakarta.

"*Alhamdulillah* harga sayur-sayuran sudah mulai naik kiniko Pak?"

"*Alhamdulillah* vegetable's prices have risen now Sir?"

Based on the statement above, it can be concluded that a farmer tends to mix his language between Indonesian and Minangkabaunese by changing` "*sekarang*" with "*kiniko*". Although he speaks with Indonesian, he has negative attitude toward his national language.

This paper is conducted as a linguistic study which is oriented with socio cultural context. It shows the phenomena of language attitudes which occur in farmer communication using Indonesian.

B. RESEARCH METHODS

This paper is conducted by using descriptive quantitative method. It is called quantitative because it describes the data from the result of the questionnaires and interviews form by accumulated the data based on Likert' Scale measurements and identified the data in accordance with the types and factors of language attitude.

The data were collected from the 100 respondents, they are 30 years old above. There are two techniques that is used in this paper: questionnaires and interviews. The main part of the questionnaires consists of the collection of attitude statements. Informants require to show their level agreement with various statements. They chosen their degree of agreement with the statement

from all point's scale. The informants decided agreement by choosing only four points of Likert Scale: Strongly Agree, Agree, Disagree, and Strongly Disagree. In interviewing, the writer selected 8 of the 16 statements which are considered extreme, which needs further details. Then, the writer asked informants their reason chose that answer.

C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

In this paper, the writer found 92 of 100 total data of farmers' answer in Alahan Panjang have a negative attitude toward Indonesian. They were generally disagreed toward the positive statements and agreed with negative statements. Even there are seven until eight farmers agreed with those positive statements and about seven farmers disagreed with negative statements.

Based on statements given, most of farmers' answer disagree or strongly disagree of using Indonesian. The writer found almost of all farmers chosen ≤ 2 in positive statements and chosen ≥ 3 in negative statements. This following table shows the result based on their attitudes:

Statements	N	Averages
1	100	2,03
2	100	1,93
3	100	1,82
4	100	1,85
5	100	1,86
6	100	2,02
7	100	1,99
8	100	2,26
9	100	2,05
10	100	2,01
11	100	2,14
12	100	2,01
13	100	1,4
14	100	2,09
15	100	1,38
16	100	1,26
Total		30.1

The table above proved that 92 of 100 farmers in Alahan Panjang have a negative attitude toward Indonesian. From ten positive statements, 92 of 100 farmers chosen ≤ 2 and from 6 negative statements 92 of 100 farmers chosen ≥ 3 . That is shows that farmers in Alahan Panjang have a negative attitude toward Indonesian.

Factors were found in interviewing that make farmers have negative attitudes toward Indonesian are social factors, situational of language

use, gender and prestige. The most factors which occur are situational of language use and social factors. Farmers tend to speak Minangkabaunese because they are in Minangkabaunese area and not understood Indonesian well. This situation makes them have to decide to use Minangkabaunese better than Indonesian.

Social factor is also affected farmers to have such attitudes. They live in Minangkabaunese society as a result they have to speak by using Minangkabaunese. Prestige means the farmers are not ashamed to use Indonesian while communicating each other. This factor is categorized into covert prestige. It based on Holmes (1992:348) which said that covert prestige defines how people should speak to be considered members of that particular object. It means farmers defined their attitude toward Indonesian to be considered members of a certain community. They speak Indonesian and want to consider as members of Indonesian people.

Meanwhile, the writer found other factors that make farmers have a negative attitude toward Indonesian. Those factors are environment and cultural factors. There are some farmers who did not speak Indonesian because it is not based on their environment. They said that they live and arise in Minangkabaunese environment as a result they speak Minangkabaunese not Indonesian. Their other reason is Minangkabaunese is their native language that is why they have to speak Minangkabaunese not Indonesian. Cultural factors because farmers did not want to make Indonesian as their identity. They did not keep to speak Indonesian and not proud of using it.

There are many negative answer toward Indonesian found. In addition, there are eight farmers who have positive answered toward interview guidelines questions. There are no differences between females and males attitudes that found in this paper. Both of them have a negative toward Indonesian. In order to know the clearly explanation, the occurrence of farmers' attitude performed into transcription text.

In general, language attitudes are part of Sociolinguistic study. Languages attitudes are something which is focused on the individual speaker's attitudes toward his own language use. It shows mental attitude and behaviour of language.

The phenomenon of language attitudes also happens in Minangkabaunese especially Minangkabaunese farmers. Generally, Minangkabaunese farmers are to be hesitant to decide their attitude toward language. This paper is to investigate the farmers' attitudes toward Indonesian in Alahan Panjang and the factors that make farmers have such an attitude toward Indonesian in Alahan Panjang.

In this paper, the writer found 92 of 100 total data of Minangkabaunese farmers in Alahan Panjang answer have a negative attitude toward Indonesian. Meanwhile, there are five factors that farmers have such

attitude toward Indonesian. These factors are social factors, situational of language use, gender, prestige, and cultural factors. The types of language attitudes and five factors that make farmers have such attitudes toward their national language by experts were used. In fact, the classification of types of language attitudes from Fasold (1987: 147-148) is used in this paper. Then, the varied theories proposed by some experts: on Garvin and Mathiot (1968), Weinreich (1974:99), Lablelle (2011: 199) are also found and are proven in this paper.

Furthermore, the differences between this paper and the previous researcher comes from Khoir's (2014) who conducted about The Language Attitude of Students of English Department UIN Sunan Kalijaga toward English in Yogyakarta. His finding is students in Yogyakarta had positive attitudes toward English, they know the importance of English in globalization era, learn English proudly, and intend to practice English well and correctly. However, in their daily life, they tend to do opposite of the attitude. They rarely practice 4 (four) English skills – speaking, listening, reading and writing outside the campus. Moreover, they seldom use English as a communication tool with their classmates. It indicates that the cognitive dissonance happens; their attitude and behaviour are different. For respondents' orientation in learning English, they are influenced by both instrumental orientation and integrative orientation.

This study was a quantitative research because it was description of attitudes, or opinions of a population, and then, it indicated that the types and factors which occurred from language attitudes by 30-55 years old Minangkabaunese farmers who live in Alahan Panjang. This paper has conclusion that Minangkabaunese farmers has a negative attitude toward their national language. There are five factors that make farmers have this attitude: social factors, situational of language use, gender, prestige and cultural factors.

Those differences because Khoir's (2014) focus on students attitudes toward English, while this paper focuses on Minangkabaunese farmers' attitudes toward their national language, Indonesian.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

It can be concluded that farmers in Alahan Panjang have a negative attitude toward their national language. They are not proud of using Indonesian wherever they are. They do not want to make Indonesian as their identity and they do not aware about that language. Meanwhile, there are five factors found in the data such as: social factors, situational of language use, gender, prestige, and cultural factors. Therefore, the writer suggest to next researchers or writers to continue this topic or make it as a relevance research or paper in order to develop better knowledge about attitude toward language especially attitude toward national language.

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