



## **THE MAINTENANCE OF MINANGKABAUNESE FOUND IN SUNGAI LANDIA**

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### **ABSTRACT**

*The purpose of this article is to know the words that still maintained in Sungai Landia and the factors that those words still exist. The data were collected through interview from 10 informants. Based on findings, there are 111 words that still maintained in Sungai Landia. It consists of 34 nouns, 27 adjectives, 34 verbs, 8 adverb (times), 5 adverb (degrees), and 3 directionals. The factors that those words still maintained, such language loyalty and pride of language itself, globalization, customs, population and location, the concern for the language. Based on findings and discussion, Sungai Landia's people should increase language maintenance so that language shift or language death will never happen.*

Key words : *language maintenance, Sungai Landia's people.*

### **A. INTRODUCTION**

Language has a very important position in human life. It is the only tool or thing that is used by human to speak to each other. Language is a symbol system arbitrator sounds used by members of a community to work together, interact, and identify themselves. Language is also a thing that makes humans different from other creature. In Indonesia , people use Bahasa Indonesia as the national language. Language in Indonesia is diversity because Indonesia consists of many provinces.

According to Sugodo (2008), Indonesia has more than 746 local languages and Bahasa Indonesia as the national language. Minangkabaunese is one of the local language in Indonesia which is still used by its speakers as a tool to interact each other. It is known as the indigeneous language in West Sumatera and it is known as the first language or mother tongue that used by Minangkabau people. According to Jufrizal (2007:7), Minangkabau people in West Sumatera use Minangkabaunese in their every communication, such as

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economy activity, trade, and socio cultural in their daily activity. This language is spoken as a native language for more than 5,6 million people primarily live in Padang and the highlands in West Sumatera. In applying language, every region in West Sumatera has own dialect, variation, style, and words. In sociolinguistics, Sumarsono (1993:8) assumed that language is never monolithic because language has diversity. That diversity shows an identity in a region.

As a tool for communication, language that used by people in West Sumatera, it has possibility to change the language. Fronkin (2011:489) states that changes in language occasionally occur in the grammars and lexicon of people who speak the language and are perpetuated as new generations of children acquire the altered language and make further change. It could be caused by the influence social factors, geographical factors, and contamination from other languages. If a community in one area starts to use a new language, it means shift language is happening. This phenomenon happens in almost all region in West Sumatra. According to Sumarsono and Partana (2002:236-237) shift language is caused by several factors, such as migration, economy factors, social factors, politic factors, education factors, demographic factors, attitudes, and values. Besides, since the language development, the local language also becomes language death. Schendl (2001) states that language death is no longer spoken. This may happen in two ways. The first case is a language dies because its speakers do, for no reason of disease, natural disaster, or genocide. The second case is a variety bring linguistics issues to the fore, and is the result of intensive language contact.

Shift language cannot be separated from language maintenance. According to Winford (2003), language maintenance refers to simply the preservation by a speech community of its native language from generation to generation. It can be said that language maintenance is an attitude towards one language to still using it among other languages. This is can be done by doing some efforts, like using the vernacular language regularly, introducing the vernacular language to young generation, and teaching them to loyal with vernacular language and culture.

There is a village named Sungai Landia which is still using and maintaining their vernacular language until now. Sungai Landia is a sub district of Kabupaten Agam, West Sumatera. It has 1.219 population. Old generation and young generation use the vernacular language fluently in daily life and wherever they belong. Language maintenance in Sungai Landia can be caused by many factors, such as loyalty factors, family factors, environment factors, and so on. Here are some examples of vocabulary that still maintained in Sungai Landia :

NO	WORD	STANDARD MINANGKABAUNESE	TRANSLATING
1	Kaluwaik	Di bawah salimuik	Under The Blanket
2	Mangurapiak	Kuruih	Skinny
3	Pepaik	Paniang	Dizzy
4	Diansik	Dipaso	Be Forced
5	Bacaran	Bacagak	Fighting

By this phenomenon, this article analyzes the factors that people in Sungai Landia maintain their vernacular language. Besides it shows the words that still maintained in Sungai Landia.

## B. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

According to Dudiarto and Anggraeni (2003), there are several techniques of collecting data : interview, questionnaire, observation, and investigation. In other opinion given by Denzin and Lincoln (2003:645), the most common of interviewing involves individual, face to face verbal interchange, mailed or self administered questioners and telephone surveys. The data of this research were collected by interviewing. In this research the researcher asks 10 informants, which includes old generations and young generations to get what are the words that still maintained and the factors of language maintenance in Sungai Landia. The researcher uses note and pen while interviewing the informants. The data were noted on the paper.

## C. FINDING AND DISCUSSION

The data contains 111 words that still maintained in Sungai Landia. The researcher completed the data with divided those words into 6 type of word classes.

NO	TYPE OF WORD CLASSES	FREQUENCY
1	Noun	34
2	Adjective	27
3	Verb	34
4	Adverb (Times)	8
5	Adverb (Degrees)	5
6	Directional	3
		111

From table above, it shows that the researcher found 34 nouns, 27 adjectives, 34 verbs, 8 adverb (times), adverb (degrees), and 3 directionals.

## 1. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Nouns

### *biyai*

*Biyai* is address term that is used by people in Sungai Landia. This is addressed to mother. Using this address term is one of the customs in Sungai Landia. Sungai Landia has a strong culture. People in Sungai Landia have been using it from generation to generation. By using word *biyai*, it means people maintain their culture. Old people and leader in Sungai Landia emphasize their community to still use this word continuously so that the customs and culture in Sungai Landia is sustainable and survive.

### *baju angek*

*Baju angek* means jacket. If *Baju Angek* is translated into Bahasa, it is still jacket. People in Sungai Landia assume that word 'jacket' is a modern thing. People in this village are worry about globalization. Like in sentence '*Kanak an lah jacket tu!*' There is code mixing in that sentence. Code mixing never happens in Sungai Landia. Because of this factor, people in Sungai Landia still use word *baju angek* rather than jacket.

### *cipia*

*Cipia* means plate. People in Sungai Landia consider that word *cipia* is a unique word. Whenever they hear that word, they usually say it back. For instance in sentence '*baok kamari cipia tu!*', and usually reply like '*hehe cipia*'. People in Sungai Landia believe that custom has been doing from generation to generation. It shows that people in this village loyal of language itself.

## 2. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Verbs

### *manereh-nereh*

This word actually considered rude. *Manereh-nereh* means pass by among people who is sitting without permission. The purpose people in Sungai Landia use this word is to quip someone. As explanation before, Sungai Landia has a strong customs. People in Sungai Landia uphold the customs. By using this word, people will understand and realize their fault. For instance, people in Sungai Landia rather use sentence '*Jan manereh-nereh juo lai a, urang abih duduak gai*' instead of '*Jan lalu-lalu juo lai a, urang abih duduak gai*'. Word *lalu-lalu* is considered more polite. People in Sungai Landia assume use word *lalu-lalu* will not make people understand and realize their fault.

*bakureh*

*Bakureh* means hard work. Nowadays if we say word *bekerja*, people do not know if it is hard work or only work. People in Sungai Landia use word *bakureh* so that people, especially young generation know the differences about work and hard work. There are so many terms that is used by people in Sungai Landia in their daily life. Those terms are still maintained so that people in Sungai Landia will understand what they or people talking about.

*rambah*

*Rambah* can be cut off the tree, but *rambah* in this case is hit someone. If someone say word *rambah*, it shows he or she is very angry. People in Sungai Landia assume that word *rambah* is rude. For example in sentence ‘*den lacuik ang beko.*’, is more polite than ‘*den rambah ang beko.*’ Like explanation above, people in Sungai Landia still maintaining the terms so that all generation of Sungai Landia know and understand the thing while we are talking.

**3. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Adjectives**

*mipih*

People nowadays, especially young generation do not be able to distinguish meaning of a word. Like word *mipih* and *tipih*, they assume that those words have the same meaning. It is actually has different meaning. *Mipih* means very thin. This problem make people in Sungai Landia concern about using a word that has different meaning. That is why people in Sungai Landia use a word or sentence based on situation. For instance, ‘*Kantang ko mipih dipotong no.*’

*lakuah*

*Lakuah* is different with *kumuah*. *Lakuah* means very dirty. As explanation before, people use a word or a sentence based on situation. For example in sentence ‘*lakuah nyo tanpaik ko.*’, and ‘*kumuahnyo tanpaik ko.*’, have different meaning.

*jinih*

*Jinih* means very clean. People probably assume that *barasiah* is the same with *jinih*. It is actually has different meaning. That is why people in Sungai Landia still use word *jinih*, because old people in Sungai Landia use a word based on situation. They introduced this word to young generation and still use it from generation to generation.

**4. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Adverb (Times)**

*siang*

People in Sungai Landia use a word in detail. Like word *siang*, it means tomorrow in the afternoon. For instance they use word *siang* so that they know that it means tomorrow in the afternoon. Mostly now people use word *bisuak*. If we use word *bisuak*, we do not know whether it is morning, afternoon, or night. That is why this word is maintained, because people in Sungai Landia have been introduced how to use a word in a sentence.

*panari*

*Panari* means ‘when’. People in Sungai Landia use *panari* when they asking the time. For instance, ‘*Panari no tibo di rumah?*’. It can be use word *bilu*, like ‘*Bilu no tibo di rumah?*’. Word *panari* comes from word *kapan hari* and it is shortened become *panari*. This word is identity of people Sungai Landia. According to some people in this village, *panari* is used by only people in Sungai Landia. That is why they still use this word to maintain their identity.

## 5. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Adverb (Degrees)

*sauleh*

*sajelai*

*samiang*

Those words have the same meaning, that is a little, but using in different situation. Like word *sauleh* is used for fruit (orange). *Sajelai* is used for a spray spinach, rose, and so on. *Samiang* is used for something that very small, like dust, sand. As explanation before that people in Sungai Landia use word based on the situation. By using these words, people in Sungai Landia will know the degree of a thing.

## 6. The Maintenance of Minangkabaunese in Directional

*ten*

*sinen*

*koto*

Like adverb (times) and adverb (degrees), using directional such as *ten*, *koto*, *sinen* show that people in Sungai Landia is detail in using a word. Word *ten* shows that something which is so far away but it is able to be seen, like someone points a house on the hill. Word *koto* is used for point something that close to us. Using a word in detail and based on situation like in Sungai Landia, will make easier to understand something.



There are 5 factors of maintenance language in Sungai Landia, they are :

**a. Language Loyalty and Pride of Language Itself.**

Language loyalty is the first factor of language maintenance in Sungai Landia. Language loyalty seems to be one of the bonds that keeps speech community together. Language loyalty in Sungai Landia is quite strong. People in Sungai Landia speak Minangkabauese and use the origin words daily with each other and anywhere. Besides, young generation is taught to use Minangkabauese and vernacular language. They have also introduced this language since childhood. They said that they are going to introduce this language to generation to generation so that language still exist and maintain.

People in Sungai Landia also pride of language itself. Pride of language itself can be seen from the attitude in speaking. For instance, people in this area are proudly use word '*no*' than '*nyo*'. Furthermore, people who live in another area are also use vernacular language in their community. It shows that it is their style and identity. By showing the pride of language itself, that means people in Sungai Landia is loyal to their vernacular language.

**b. Globalization**

The second factor of language maintenance in Sungai Landia is globalization. The impact of globalization is not only on technology but also in language. When the effects of globalization cannot be dammed, there will be the possibility of influencing the existence of a language. In modern era such as internet, social media, television are the main factors that influence the language change and the way people talk. For example, the word '*biyai*' becomes '*mama* or '*nyokap*', '*tikuluak*' becomes '*selendang*'. People, especially young generation assume that those words (*mama* and *selendang*) are more popular. That is why people in Sungai Landia maintain the origin language from this factor by still using the origin words from generation to generation and even they believe that those words can be exist in this modern era.

**c. The Customs**

Sungai Landia has a strong culture and customs. Using the vernacular language and origin words is one of the customs that must be maintained. It can be seen that people in Sungai Landia always do a gathering once a month. This is attended by traditional leaders, society included old people and young people. This gathering discuss about development of Nagari Sungai Landia and they use vernacular language. Furthermore, in some events, like wedding event, people in Sungai Landia

use '*pasambahan*' which use vernacular language. By doing those events, vernacular language in Sungai Landia still exist.

**d. Population and Location**

Sungai Landia has small population. There is 1.219 population including a few immigrants from another cities, such as Java and Medan who married with Sungai Landia's people. The immigrants rather use vernacular language in Sungai Landia than their own language because they have been living in Sungai Landia for a long time and they are introduced by her husband or his wife the vernacular language since they came to Sungai Landia. The location in Sungai Landia is far from crowded. This is very influence of maintain language in this village. People assume the farer one location of a village from the crowded, the less influences can make language shift or even language death in Sungai Landia.

**e. The Concern for The Language**

The last factor of language maintenance in Sungai Landia is the concern for the language. Language is a tool for communicating and can symbolize a nation's identity. If an area does not matter anymore with the existence of language, then language will be extinct. The concern for the language can maintain language and cannot be replaced with a new language. People in Sungai Landia concern with extinct of a language, that is why there are some efforts to maintain the language in Sungai Landia, such as people in Sungai Landia must have positive attitude for the language, using the vernacular language in daily life, and introduce vernacular language to the children and young generation, it can be done in home and school.

**D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION**

It can be conclude that there are 111 words that still maintained in Sungai Landia, which divided into 6 type of word classes. They are 34 nouns, 34 verbs, 27 adjectives, 8 adverb (times), 5 adverb (degrees), and 3 directionals .There are 5 factors that those words still exist and survive such as loyalty language and pride of language itself, globalization, the customs, population and location, the concern for the language.

The factors of language maintenance in Sungai Landia can be reference to seek measures to preserve a local language. In addition, by using type of word classes, such as noun, verb, adjective, verb, adverb, and directional, it can make for the readers to understand the words that still maintained in this paper. The researcher hopes that this study useful for the readers and the next



researcher who interested in the same topic about language maintenance and it can be used as a reference for future research.

**Note:** This article is written based on the research under the supervision of her advisor, Fitrawati, S.S., M.Pd.

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