LANGUAGE CHANGE ON THE LEVEL OF LEXICON IN *BAHASA KERINCI* FOUND IN *PULAU TENGAH* DIALECT

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ABSTRACT

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengetahui tipe-tipe perubahan bahasa pada level kosakata dalam Bahasa Kerinci yang ditemukan di dialek Pulau Tengah dan sikap penutur terhadap perubahan bahasa yang terjadi. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah deskriptif dengan data penelitian berupa kosakata lama dalam dialek Pulau Tengah yang mengalami perubahan dan jawaban dari para penutur yang mengemukakan pendapat mereka terhadap perubahan bahasa pada level kosakata dalam dialek Pulau Tengah. Hasil dari penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa ada dua tipe perubahan bahasa pada level kosakata yang ditemukan pada dialek Pulau Tengah yaitu penambahan kosakata baru dan kata-kata yang hilang. Bagian-bagian dari penambahan kosakata baru yang ditemukan adalah peminjaman dari Bahasa Indonesia, peminjaman dari Bahasa Minangkabau, penciptaan dari merek, dan penciptaan kata baru yang tidak memiliki alasan spesifik. Berikutnya, ditemukan dua macam sikap penutur terhadap perubahan yang terjadi yaitu positif dan netral dengan jumlah sikap positif lebih banyak daripada netral.

Key words: perubahan bahasa, level kosakata, Bahasa Kerinci, dialek Pulau Tengah

A. INTRODUCTION

All human beings interact with each other by using communication tool called language. In entire world there are so many languages that are existing at the present time. It is guesstimated that the number of languages in the world is about 6000 to 7000 languages (Gelderen, 2006). Nothing in the world is totally maintained. All the things change and language is no exception. Every period of time, it is believed that there are potential for a language to be born and died due to some repercussions, e.g the emergence of pidgins and creoles or maybe the influence of another aspect of language which is ongoing from time to time

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among the speaker of a particular language. Consequently, language begin to lose its originality and it start to change.

The phenomenon of changes on language is studied in linguistics. The term 'language change' in the scientific study of language is the inevitable process that will impact language and make variation over time in a language's phonetic, phonemic, lexical, syntactic, semantic, and other features. Schendl (2001:3) states that language change goes on gradually, almost imperceptibly. This phenomenon occurs from one generation to another generation, so it is potential for a language to die because of the changes and the loss of its speakers.

Until today some languages keep changing and the change tends to be undeniable, therefore there is no accurate calculation about the numbers of the languages in the world. Not only a language with no certain standardization always be the object of language change, but also the standardized one due to its speakers can not control the influences that affect the originality of their language. Consequently, there is no guarantee for a language to be maintained all over the time and it will change somehow.

Indonesia is a country that has many languages. It is estimated that the number of languages in Indonesia is about 726 languages (Firmansyah, 2015). With this rich variety of language, it is possible for a language to change owing to the influence of another language. As an illustration, Bahasa Betawi has a great repercussion to Bahasa Indonesia because in many tv serials the actors and actress tend to mix these two languages. For example, the actors or actress use the sentence 'aku gak suka sama dia' while in standard Bahasa Indonesia is 'aku tidak menyukai dia' and consequently many teenagers follow this style and this influence spread out. If this impact is ongoing on long period of time, it may erode the authenticity of Bahasa Indonesia

One of languages in Indonesia is Bahasa Kerinci. It is spoken in the area around Sungai Penuh and Kerinci. The number of speakers of Bahasa Kerinci is about 285.000 speakers and this language has very high dialect variety because from one to another area the people use different dialects (Lewis, Simons, and Fennig, 2016). Some of the dialects in Bahasa Kerinci are Pulau Tengah dialect, Semerap dialect, Lempur Danau dialect, etc which are spoken in contiguous area. In this case, it is possible for one dialect to be influenced by another dialect to change.

The change on the level of lexicon in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect occurs slowly but sure. The example of lexical change found in Pulau Tengah dialect is the word 'lapaih' (old form) become 'daloa' (current form) which mean 'deep'. Currently the speakers do not use the word 'lapaih' any longer. Morever, the young generation of Pulau Tengah dialect's speakers do not recognize that word at all and they say the word 'lapaih' sound strange. It is different with opinion from some of the old generation of Pulau Tengah dialect's speaker who say that both words ('lapaih' and 'daloa') are just the same. This phenomena caught the researcher's attention to conduct the research about it because there is numerous words underwent the change and each of the

speakers of Pulau Tengah dialect (old and young generation) has different attitude towards the change.

The emphasis of this current research is on the change on the level of lexicon in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect which the old people rarely or almost no longer use those lexicon in the present time and the young generation do not know and use those lexicon. According to Schendl (2001:9), he explains the aims and scope of historical linguistics as follow:

(1) The study of the history of particular languages on the basis of existing written data. (2) The study of prehistory of language by means of comparative reconstruction, whereby the unrecorded past is inferred on the evidence of the data that are availabe from later period. (3) The study of ongoing changes in a language.

Based on the statement by Schendl above, this study dealt with ongoing changes in a language because the researcher found out the lexical change at the present time.

Finally, this research needs to be conducted because there is a few researches about lexical change. This research is important to prove that the phenomenon of language change does not only affect major language like English or other national languages but also affect the regional language which usually has fewer speakers. This research found out the types of lexical change in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect. Furthermore, the researcher also observed the characteristic and the attitudes of the speakers toward the changes.

There are several researcher who have conducted research about Bahasa Kerinci. Ernanda (2015) conducted a research about "Phrasal alteration in the PondokTinggi dialect of Kerinci". The research examined the implications of language contact in a Malay sub-variety known as PondokTinggi, spoken in Sumatra with the focus on the grammatical phenomenon of phrasal alternation. Phrasal alternation is characterized by the presence of two distinct forms for nearly all lexical items, whose final syllables differ in shape. These are termed absolute and oblique. The research was intergenerational analysis. Ernanda states that the intergenerational transmission of phrasal alternation offers a way to measure the degree of contact-induced language change in PondokTinggi. Ernanda conducted an experiment to elicit the usage of the absolute and the oblique forms in order to find out how the distribution of phrasal alternation has changed within the last two generations. From the research, Ernanda found a grammatical simplification caused by contact between PondokTinggi and Bahasa Indonesia, a related Malayic variety serving as Indonesia's prestigious official language. The findings adds a dimension of loss of local linguistic diversity to more familiar tropes of the national success of Bahasa Indonesia.

Wulandari, Morelent, and Isnanda (2014) conducted a research about Phonology of Bahasa Kerinci in TanjungPauhMudik dialect. The research describes the shape of the vocal, consonants and diphthongs of Bahasa Kerinci in TanjungPauhMudik dialect that spoken in TanjungPauhMudik area, KelilingDanau district of Kerinci Regency in Jambi Province. From the research about Phonology of Bahasa Kerinci in TanjungPauhMudik dialect,

Wulandari et al found there 6 vowel as follow, high vowel /i/,/u/, middle vowel /e/, /o/, /∂/ and low vowel /a/. 20 consonants consists of 3 bilabial consonants that consists of /p/, /b/, /m/, 6 alveolar consonants that consists of /t/, /d/, /s/, /r/, /l/, /n/, and 11 other consonants that consists of /k/, /g/, /y/, /ŋ/, /c/, /j/, /ñ/, /ʔ/, /š/, /x/, /h/. 10 diphthongs as follow: /ia/, /ua/, /au/, /ai/, /ae/, /oi/, /ow/, /aw/, /ay/, and /oy/ from 30 data of 1046 lexicon used in data collection.

Hartati (2015) conducted a research about "Lexical Change in Batu Bara Malay Dialect". The research investigate the lexical change of Batu Bara Malay dialect specifically the types, patterns and context of lexical change of Batu Bara Malay dialect. The findings of this research shows that the types of lexical change of Batu Bara Malay dialect comprises into three categories i.e. lexical loss, lexical addition and semantic change of lexical. Then, the lexical of Batu Bara Malay dialect change pattern has been categorized into: lexical loss which is classified into potential and total lexical loss. Lexical addition through borrowing words which is decomposed into five more specific pattern i.e. loan word, loan translation and loan bifurcation, loan coinage and loan clipping. Semantic changes are patterned to narrowing and bifurcation. Next, the context of lexical change, context of lexical loss are socio cultural, language attitude, language contact, technological development and homonymic. Contexts of lexical addition are technological development, socio cultural and language contact. Context of semantic change are psychological factor, socio cultural change, and language contact.

Lishandi and Refnaldi (2013) conducted a research about "Lexical Change and Lexical Shift in Minangkabau Used in Batusangkar". The research found that there are lexical shift and lexical change in Minangkabau language used by the people in Batusangkar. There is also the process of phonemic change in lexical shift occurred. Phonemic change can be seen through the change of consonant and vowel. The process of lexical shift that is occurring on the young generation is not only one underwent the change, but also addition and deletion of consonant and vocal of lexicon. Nevertheless, between the lexicon use by old generation and the young generation can be seen the obvious differences.

By listing the example of previous studies about Bahasa Kerinci above, it is known the differences between this research and previous studies. To the research which have been conducted by Ernanda and Wulandari et al , this research was aimed to analyze the different topic in Bahasa Kerinci. This research focused on lexical change in another dialect of Bahasa Kerinci. To the research which have been conducted by Hartati and Lishandi, this research has the same topic with their research but this research was about the change in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect. This research found out the types of language change on the level of lexicon and the attitude of the speaker towards the change.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This research was descriptive research because it was applied to answer the question about the fact or described the existing phenomena. It included

collecting data in order to test the hypothesis or to answer the research question that has been state among concerning the current study (Gay, 1981:89). This research had three steps: collecting the data, analyzing the data, and presenting the result of data analysis. This research described the data about the change on the level of lexicon found in Pulau Tengah dialect.

Meanwhile, qualitative analysis was also used in data analysis. According to Rasinger (2010, p. 52) qualitative analysis is concerned with structures and patterns, how something is, and focuses on description. Therefore, the researcher focused on explaining the data and categorizing them in accordance with the research question.

The data of this research were the changed words (the words that are rarely or almost no longer use by the old people and can not be understood by the young generation). The researcher collected the data through interview and checklist form. The researcher listed the words that are no longer recognized in the present time by young generation of the speaker of Pulau Tengah dialect and then confirmed the changes through the interview with informants. Through the interview the informants were also asked to give their opinion about the changes. To prove the changes, the researcher used checklist form that was given to respondents. In checklist form, the respondents were also asked to give their opinion about the changes. Finally, the researcher got the adequate data to be classified and analyzed to answer the research question and to fulfill the research purpose.

The instruments of this research were interview and checklist form. The interview was aimed to collect the words or listing the data and confirmed the changes at once. In the interview with informants, the researcher made sure wheter the words were really exist in the past time or not and they were also asked about their opinion related to the changes in order to examine their attitude towards the changes.

Besides, the equipments were needed to facilitate the researcher. The researcher required writing equipment to write or listing the word during the obsevation with participants. The researcher used a voice recorder during the interview with Informants. Last but not least, the researcher used netbook or laptop to transcribe and analyze the data

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The discussion of this resaerch was divided into two parts. Firstly, the researcher discusses about the type of lexical change that found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect. The researcher found there were two types of lexical change in *Pulau Tengah* dialect.

Table 1. Types of Lexical Change Found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect

No	Types	Frequency
1	Addition of new words	159
2	Loss of words	41
	Total	200

Based on the analysis, there were two major types of lexical change in *Pulau Tengah* dialect. They are addition of new words and loss of words. In addition, since addition of new words has some branches, the researcher found there were borrowing from *Bahasa Indonesia,* borrowing from Minangkabau language, creation from brand (trade) name, and creation from nothing in the phenomenon of language change on the level of lexicon in *Bahasa Kerinci*found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect. Furthermore, below is the branches of addition of new words that found in this research with the total for each branch.

Table 2. Branches of Addition of New Words

No	Types	Frequency
1	Borrowing from *Bahasa Indonesia*	126
2	Borrowing from Minangkabau language	8
3	Creation from brand name	1
12	Creation from nothing	24
	Total	159

Borrowing from *Bahasa Indonesia* is the most frequent in this research. The total number of borrowing from *Bahasa Indonesia* is 126 words. According to Campblell (1998:59), the pivotal reason why language borrow words from another language is for prestige, because foreign term in some reason is considered better. *Pulau Tengah* dialect's speakers borrow words from *Bahasa Indonesia* because the status and position of *Bahasa Indonesia* is a national language in Indonesia. In this study, it was found many words from *Bahasa Indonesia* in *Pulau Tengah* dialect because they seemed prestigious such as*balkon, pelangi, sayang, mantel, etc.*

In the phenomenon of language change on the level of lexicon in *Bahasa Kerinci*found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect, the researcher also found there were words borrowed from Minangkabau language. It can be said that the words get borrowed through language contact between *Bahasa Kerinci*and Minangkabau language. Not only these two languages speak in the contiguous area, but also since the beginning until now, many people from West Sumatera wanders to Kerinci to establish business, work, even marrying the native Kerinci. In addition, Minangkabau language is use by the people in Sungai Penuh as the central trade in Kerinci. Almost all the shopkeepers in Sungai Penuh speak Minangkabau language.

Campbell (1998:64) reveals that loanwords can be identified from phonological clues, morphological complexity, clues from cognates, geographical and ecological clues, and other semantic clues. Borrowing from *Bahasa Indonesia* was easily identified from phonological clues and morphological complexity. The loanwords from *Bahasa Indonesia* were adopted and adapted which the similarity to the origin words is so close, e.g. *'budoak'* → *'budak', 'sesak'* → *'sesat'*, etc. Related to borrowing from Minangkabau language, the clues not only from phonological clues and morphological complexity but also from geographical and

ecological clues due to Minangkabau language and *Bahasa Kerinci* are spoken in contiguous area.

Related to the branches of additional of new words, the researcher also found the process of addition of new words created from nothing and the name of brand. Creation from nothing is when a new word appeared but the word came neither from existing language nor the linguistic process such as word-formation, amalgamation, etc, but the word was created by a person or society, then became viral, many speakers used it, and became a word of the language then. For example, in *Pulau Tengah* dialect the word '*bariseh*' appears to replace the word '*simaih*', but '*bariseh*' is not from other languages but in the past the word is created by a person or society, after that, many speakers use the word '*bariseh*' and it now replace the word '*simaih*'. On the other hand, creation from brand (trade) name happened when a name of brand use by the speakers of one language to refer to something. For example, in *Pulau Tengah* dialect's speakers used to call motorcycle as '*utopik*'. Since the brand of motorcycle, '*honda*', has become popular, the speakers now use the word '*honda*' to define motorcycle.

The second major type of lexical change in *Bahasa Kerinci*found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect is loss of words. The word categorized as lost words when they lost through inattention. Most of lost words in *Pulau Tengah* dialect is the name of old objects that are no longer existed at present. This is along with the development of era that the people need sophisticated and practical thing, so the people leave impractical thing behind. From the data of this research, it was found there were 42 lost words.

In line with the types of lexical change in *Bahasa Kerinci*found in *Pulau Tengah* dialect, the researcher also examined the attitude of the speakers toward the change. The researcher ask the informants and respondents about their opinions related to the phenomenon of language change on the level of lexicon in *Bahasa Kerinci*found in *Puluau Tengah* dialect. After all the answers collected, the researcher analyzed the answers and the finding as follow:

Table 3. Attitude of the Speakers towards the Change

No	Attitude	Total
1	Positive attitude	13 answers
2	Negative attitude	0 answer
3	Neutral attitude	2 answers

As can bee seen above, 13 answers show positive attitude toward the change and 2 answers show neutral attitude. The uniqueness of this is that all respondents, in this case are the young generation of *Pulau Tengah* dialect's speakers, gave the answer that show positive attitude. As have been explain beforehand, positive attitude means the people are happy with the changes, moreover they are the agent of change. However, the attitudes of the speakers towards the change is subjective for they have their own perspective about the changes.

In addition, previous studies about lexical change in Malay language family also conducted by Hartati (2015) entitled "Lexical Change in Batu Bara Malay Dialect" and Lishandi and Refnaldi (2013) entitled "Lexical Change and

Lexical Shift in Minangkabau Used in Batusangkar". Between these two research, the research conducted by Hartati is similar with this research because it also found out the types of lexical change, whereas the reserach conducted by Lishandi and Refnaldi did not talk about the type of lexical change. Hartati found there were three type of lexical change in Batu Bara Malay dialect, they are lexical loss, lexical addition and semantic change of lexical. In line with Hartati, this research also found the same types of lexical change except semantic change. On the other hand, this research examined the attitude of the speakers toward the change while both related previous studies did not.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

Based on the findings, the first conclusion of the research is that the types of lexical change in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect were in two types; addition of new words and loss of words. Since addition of new words has branches, the researcher found there were four types of addition of new words in the phenomenon of lexical change in Pulau Tengah dialect. They are borrowing from Bahasa Indonesia, borrowing from Minangkabau language, creation from brand name, and creation from nothing. In addition, borrowing from other languages underwent adoption and adaptation process. A large number of loanwords from Bahasa Indonesia in Pulau Tengah dialect is because the status of Bahasa Indonesia as national language and it is considered prestigious to borrow words from national language. In another hand, borrowing from Minangkabau language is because geographically Kerinci and West Sumatera are in the contiguous area. From the findings, it can be concluded that most of the data was borrowing from Bahasa Indonesia that underwent adaptation process.

The second conclusion is that there were two kinds of the speakers' attitude toward the change in the phenomenon of language change on the level of lexicon in Bahasa Kerinci found in Pulau Tengah dialect. They are positive attitude and neutral attitude. In addition, all the answers from respondents, in this case is young generation of Pulau Tengah dialect's speakers, showed positive attitude that mean they are happy with the change. Thus, it can be concluded that most of the speakers, especially young generation have positive attitude toward lexical change in Pulau Tengah dialect.

The researcher hopes his work will make linguistic student more attracted to study language change because it is fascinating. Besides, the researcher expect that his work will be useful one day as the reference for the next researchers who are interested in conducting research about lexical change. Furthermore, it is also expected that the findings of the research will be educative and informative for everyone who reads it, wheter they are linguistic student or those who want to add knowledge about language change

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