LEXICAL CHANGE WITH REFERENCE TO SOCIAL CONTACT AMONG THE SPEAKERS OF *PASE* DIALECT

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Abstract

The aims of this study were to analyze the types, the patterns of lexical change with reference to social contact among the speakers of *Pase* dialect. The subjects of the study were personal documents written in *Pase* dialect as available in Language Department of Aceh. From the research, 505 lexicons were found, where 154 lexicons underwent loss. The percentage of lexical loss of noun was 75.32%, adjective 12.34%, and verb 12.34%. The number of lexical borrowings was 177 lexicons. The percentage of lexical borrowing of noun was 78.53%, adjective 15.25%, verb 5.09%, and adverb 1.13%. In phonological change, there were 155 lexicons. The percentage of phonological changes of noun was 89.68%, adjective 6.45%, verb 2.38%, and adverb 1.29%. In semantic change, there were 19 lexicons found, the percentages of which are: noun 68.42%, adjective 10.53%, and verb 21.05%. The patterns of lexical change with reference to social contact among the speakers of *Pase* dialect were potential loss in lexical loss, borrowings in the patterns of loan-words, loan-blend, loan-translation. The patterns of phonological change were lenition, fortition, vowel and syllable structure, syncope, apocope, and epenthesis. In semantic change, the patterns were narrowing, extension, figurative use, and pejoration.

Keywords: lexical borrowing, Pase dialect, phonological change, semantic change

A. INTRODUCTION

Acehnese language as one of hundreds of Indonesian vernacular is an Austronesian language spoken mostly in Aceh province, west of Sumatra Island. Acehnese is spoken in four dialects, namely*Pase Dialect, Pidie Dialect, Kuta Raja Dialect,* and *West Dialect. Pase*Dialect is used in North Aceh, Lhokseumawe, Bireuen, East Aceh, Langsa, and Aceh Tamiang; *Pidie*Dialect is used in Pidie Jaya and Pidie; *Kuta Raja* Dialect is used in Greater Aceh, Banda Aceh, and Sabang; and the last one, *West* Dialect, is used in West Aceh, Aceh Jaya, Southwest Aceh, and South Aceh. (Asyik, 1987:1).

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Language is a great part of human life which is characterized as a dynamic part of human that tend to change. According to Guy (1989:2) the various types of linguistic change are distinguished between structural effects of the different types and the different social circumstances surrounding them. The change in language is an environment that is surely to happen in a particular language community. Actually, it can occur due to various factors both internally and externally. The influence of internal factors is usually called individual factors that are influenced by the linguistic itself, psychology, and intergeneration factor, the individual factors deal with the language change resulted from entire generation of speaker acquisition. On the other hand, external factors are influenced by non-linguistic factors. The non-linguistic factors are social factors and contextual or situational factors, where social factors are contact between speakers of different varieties due to conquest, migration and culture, education, economic, and religion. The social contact of language change does not only include the type of environmental input but also the mechanism and rates of input processing. The mechanism is concerned with the techniques and method of input provided to the language speakers, whereas rates deal with the amount of input itself.

Language change, in other words, is the variation over time. Language change as a concept and as a subject of linguistic investigation is often regarded as something separate from the study of language in general (Benjamin, 2011). In sociolinguistic history, a vast majority of works deals with studying and explaining sound change. Perhaps it is the most thoroughly studied area of language change (Campbell, 2004:16). In reality, however, the most conspicuous type of change is the appearance of new words in a language (Trask, 1996). Obviously language change is defined as the underpinning discussion of language development. It explores the deliberate efforts of innovation and develop-ment as a while and over all domains of linguistic change, for instance loss, change and creation. However, study language change involves some of the hottest topics in linguistics, and it has important contributions to make to linguistics theory and to the understanding of nature (Campbell, 2004:1).

Language change indicates diffusion process in the body of linguistic features due to sustained and complex influence including social, historical, environmental, religious, political, foreign influence, etc. language change focuses on the study of any change in the language, which might be lost, shift of meaning and creation of a new linguistic item (Varshney, 1995: 283). According to Moyna (2009:131-132) language changes resulted from the social and individual factors. Social factors are contact between speakers of different varieties due to conquest, migration, culture, education, economic and religion. The social factors of language change not only include the type of input in the environment but also the mechanisms and rates of input processing. The mechanisms are concerned with the techniques and methods of input provided to the language speakers, whereas rates deal with the amount of input itself. On the other hand, the individual or internal factors deal with the language change which resulted from an entire generation of child acquisition.

The process of change in language is a sketch about the dynamics caused by various factors that influence immediately. As traditional views of language change, when the speakers of a language are in contact with neighbours who speak in different language, the speakers will borrow language items from outside language sources. However, it is not only a matter of the borrowings but also possibility in the form of phonology, semantic and sometimes syntactical, morphological and pragmatic.

The Acehnese has borrowed a large number of loanwords from other languages such as *sikin*'knife' from Arabic, *canca*'spoon' from Chinese, *tre*'try' from European, and *misee*' moustache' from Hindi.

The language can change in all domains of language and each language in the world tends to change, which might be in the forms of lexical, morphological, syntactical, semantic, spelling, and pragmatic changes. In reality, one of the most obvious kinds of change in language is the appearance of lexical change. The lexical can be in forms of lexical loss as the phenomenon in which a particular lexicon disappears, creation of new lexical item, semantic change or shifting meaning in lexical, and phonological change which is the process of sound change. Lexical change is manifested in every single of lexical class of a language, such as a noun, verb, adjective and adverb.

According to Varshney (1995:283) lexical loss is phenomenon in which a particular use of words disappears. The lexical loss items are classified into homonymous clash.A word can be replaced by another word. For example, Latin *caput* 'head' was replaced in Old French by the slang usage of the word *testa*'cup' to mean head. *Testa*eventually lost its slang connotation and became the normal word for 'head' in French (now *la tete*). Some words have been replaced because they may be homonymous with taboo words that people avoid: this is cited in a major textbook on historical linguistics as the reason that *rooster* has largely replaced *cock* in American English.

Changes in pronunciation are also important processes in language change. A sound change is a phonological process which has been accepted by all speaker of language (Hana, 2006:5). The sound changes tend to spread from speaker gradually in a wave-like pattern until they are uniformly used by all speakers in linguistics community, for instance can be seen in table 1:

Table 1.	Phonological Change of English	
Words	**Middle English**	**Modern English**
Five	fiːv	Faiv
Mouse	muːs	Maus
feet	feːt	fiːt
Mood	moːd	muːd
Break	brɛːken	Breik
Broke	broːken	br∂uk
Name	naːm∂	Neim
wine	wiːn	Wain
He	Hei	hiː

The main reason of the sound change is code switching. This is supported by Gumprz (1982: 56-57) who regarded that the more frequent use of code switching strategies, the greater the amount of phonetic overlap between the two contrasting codes.

Crystal (2004:330) and Millar (2015:48) categorize the sound changes as follows:
1) Assimilation;or the influence of one sound on an adjacent sound, is perhaps the most pervasive process. Assimilation processes changed Latin as *nocte*/nokte/ 'night' has become *notte* /notte/ in Italian. In this case you would have to say that they are "assimilating" to the lack of voicing when followed by nothing.
2) Dissimilation; itinvolves a change in one of two 'same' sounds that are adjacent or almost adjacent in a particular word such that they are no longer the same. Thus the first [l] in Italian *colonello*'colonel' changed to Spanish as *coronelo*.

3) Lenition and Fortition; another change is represented by lenition or weakening which affects only consonants to be weaker as geminate to simplex, stop to fricative then to approximant, stop to liquid, oral stop to glottal stop, non-nasal to nasal and voiceless to voice as in Latin *strata* becomes *strada*in Italian (Millar, 2015:51). Fortition is opposite with lenition which is be stronger as *aqua* /akwa/'water' in Latin becomes *acqua*/aqkwa/ in Italian.

4) Vowel and Syllable structure, unlike consonants, Trask (1996) in Millar (2015:58) describes frequent terms of vowel changes that straightforward way in *raising, lowering, fronting, backing, rounding, unrounding, centralization, lengthening, shortening, diphtongization,* and *monophtongization.*

5) Loss, loss involves the loss of a sound from a language, as when Hawai'ian lost the /t/ in favor of /k/.

6) Syncope and apocopeare the loss of medial and final sounds respectively. Middle English 'tame' in the past tense was /temede/.It lost both its medial and final vowels to become Modern English /teymd/. These are usually conditioned changes that do not involve loss of the same sound elsewhere.

The third change is related to semantic processes. Crystal (2004:345) mentions six types ofsemantic change, which are displayed here with different examples:

1) *Extension.* This type is the spread of meaning from a narrower to a broader class of things as *'arrive'* in English, a loan of French, formerly meant 'come to shore', but now means more generally 'come (to a place)'.

2) *Narrowing,* in which a term acquires a narrower meaning.It is the opposite meaning of extension such as *'girl '*meant 'young person (of either sex)', but now denotes only a 'young female person'.

3) *Shift.* Modern English *silly* derives from OE *saelig*, meaning 'happy, blessed, and blissful'.

4) *Figurative use.* Applying a word to denote something with nonliterally as *'The White House '*refers to 'American President'.

5) *Amelioration,* in which a term acquires a positive association. Old English *'servant'* became Modern English knight, which refers to a nobleman.

6) *Pejoration,* in which a term acquires a negative association. A *villain* once simply meant 'belonging to the villa', and referred to people now usually called 'peasants'.

A case of lexical change of *Pase*dialect is the word *"IeBeuen"* (*Tsunami*disaster) and other examples *"Sabah"* (thanks), *"gari"* (cycle), etc. it is regarded one lexical loss of *Pase*dialect because it is not practiced anymore, or *lilin*(candle) in Indonesian becomes *lilen*in *Pase*dialect of Acehnese which has change in phonological and lexical creation.

It is a tendency that the changes of *Pase* dialect are mostly found among more educated speakers, which is proven by the fact that the role of *Pase* dialect used in educational circumstance is not the same as it is at home. In fact, the medium of teaching and learning in *Pase* is Indonesian language. Consequently, the students' attitudes towards *Pase* dialect of Acehnese decreases which eventually makes Indonesian language dominantly used in their day life. Besides, religion as a particular system of faith and worship based on the speakers' beliefs serves as another influence of *Pase* dialect of Acehnese existence and maintenance as in *Pase*dialect of Acehnese loanwords from Arabic such as *qanun, hareum, haleue, hukom*etc.

The cultural environment situation in social condition is where the language speakers' activities take place, the increasingly modern influence is regarded as another factor to give pressure on the existence and maintenance of *Pase*dialect. The

fashionable and innovative devices and needs bridge the *Pase*dialect of Acehnese users's attention to lexical modernization. Furthermore, according to Durie (1985:7) the standard Acehnese comes from the North Aceh scholars BudimanSulaiman (1977, 1978, 1979) and Abdul GaniAsyik (1972, 1982). In other words, the standard Acehnese comes from *Pase*dialect. On other hand, *Pase* dialect is the more common dialect and the complete structure of language items of Acehnese language than other dialects of Kuta Raja dialect, Aceh Barat dialect, and Pidie dialect (Durie1985:7).

In accordance with the reason, it is necessary to investigate the changes of lexicons influenced by social contact which occur in *Pase*dialect of Aceh.

B. METHODOLOGY

This research applied qualitative method because it was conducted to describe and analyze the phenomenon of lexical change with reference to social contact among the speakers of *Pase* dialect. The subject of this research was personal documents written in *Pase*dialect e.g personal letters, auto-biographies or other forms of written language. Ary (2002:304) states many interesting and useful projects in the field have been concerned with information obtained by examining records as document. It means that through documentary technique, the data was be collected by reading and studying some books related to the research.

C. RESULT & DISCUSSION

Based on the result of the data analysis, the research findings of this study are elaborated below.

The lexical change of *Pase* dialect consists of lexical loss, lexical borrowing, phonological change, and semantic change. Every single sort of change was figured out on its lexical classes and patters. The number of lexical change of *Pase* dialect found 505 lexicons, where the number lexical loss was 154 lexicons; the percentage of lexical loss of noun was 75.32%, adjective 12.34%, and verb 12.34%. The number of lexical borrowing of loan-words was 57 lexicons; the percentages of each were: loan-words of nouns 91.2%, adjectives 3.5%, and verbs 5.3%. Loan-blends were found in 101 lexicons; the percentage of loan-blend of noun was 69.3%, adjective 22.9%, verb 5.9%, and adverb 1.9%. In loan-translation, 19 lexicons were found; the percentage of loan-translation of noun was 89.5% and adjective 10.5%. In phonological change, there were 155 lexicons, the percentage of phonological change of noun was 89.68%, adjective 6.45%, verb 2.38%, adverb 1.29%. In semantic change, there were 19 lexicons; the percentage of noun was 68.42%, adjective 10.53%, and verb 21.05%. The dominant number of noun above has been theoretically proved by Hana (2006:2), Thomason (2001:44) and Lindstrom (2007:233) who stated that the vocabulary is significantly affected than other language features.

The pattern of lexical change of *Pase* dialect consists of four main parts. Firstly, lexical loss patterns were potential lexical loss. Their substantial distinctions lie on existence of the lexical among the language users. Secondly, lexical borrowing patterns contain three types: loan-words, loan-blend, and loan-translation. Thirdly, phonological change patterns contain eleven types, they are fortition, lenition, raising, lowering, backing, fronting, diphtongization, monoph-tongization, syncope, apocope, and ephen-thesis. Fourthly, semantic change patters contain four types, they are extension, narrowing, pejoration, and figurative use.

1 Lexical Change of *Pase* dialect of Aceh

As customarily known the lexical change is a process by which lexical loss, lexical borrowing, semantic change, and phono-logical change take place. The first

finding of this research is that the lexical change with reference to social contact among the speakers of *Pase* dialect encompassed those sorts of change, namely loss, borrowing, phonological change, and semantic change. It is line with the theory of Vershney (1995:283) who said that lexical change of a language consists of the loss of lexical items, the change of meaning, the creation of new lexical items, and the change of phonology.

The number of lexical change of *Pase* dialect is 505 lexicons where lexical loss 154 lexicons, lexical borrowing 177 lexicons, semantic change 19 lexicons, and phono-logical change 155 lexicons. From the data, it is obvious that lexical borrowing has significant number in lexical change. It might be due to the fact that *Pase* dialect was strongly interfered by national language of Indonesia and the study of English as compulsory subject at schools by which the students or people of *Pase* dialect has a great possibility to practice and use them. Besides, it is caused by the condition of *Pase* dialect itself under the vast development of technology. These mutually interlocking con-cepts crawl on the maximum number of lexical creation of *Pase* dialect.

These lexical changes spread on some lexical classes, such as noun, verb, adjective, and adverb. However, noun was dominant lexical class as it has 80.60%. And other lexical classes (minor) are adjective (11.48%), verb (7.13%) and adverb (0.79%). The dominant number of noun above has been theoretically proven by Hana (2006:2), Thomason (2001:44), Lindstrom (2007:233), and Nagy (2010:27) who stated that the noun is significantly affected that human beings meet and practiced than other lexical classes in their life.

2 The Pattern of Lexical Change of *Pase* dialect

The fundamental principles or patterns of language have a tendency to change from complexity towards simplicity, from diffi-culty towards ease, from disorder towards order (Varshney, 1995:275). Such this prevailing principle partly exists on the lexical changes of *Pase* dialect.

Having the data analysis as a core source of conclusion, it was found out that the lexical loss of *Pase* dialect yielded a substantial pattern of change, it is potential loss. Potential loss occurred due to the absence of the object and concepts among the language users or the presence of a new lexical item. The absence of linguistic life and the presence of a new lexical item are an impact of innovation and development of technology.

Lexical borrowing patterns have been manifested on three types: loan-words, loan-blend, and loan-translation. These patterns are in relation to the classification of lexical borrowing suggested by Millar (2015:16) and Trask (1996:47). However, this research finding is more comprehensive through the division of loan-words which the patterns of the borrowing totally, loan-blend as the process of borrowing of lexical items from the other language through naturalization based on the characteristics of language recipient, and loan-translation was the phenol-menon from which the external lexical borrowing occurs through the borrowing of concept of the linguistic being borrowed.

Phonological patterns have been mani-fested on six types: lenition, fortition, vowel and syllable structure (raising, lowering, backing, fronting, diphtongization, and monophtongization), syncope, apocope, and epenthesis. These patterns are in relation to the classification of phonological change suggested by Millar (2015:48) and Crystal (2004:330) who stated that the sound changes tend to spread from speaker gradually in a wave-like pattern until they are uniformly used by all speakers in linguistics community. On the other hand, the pattern of phonological change of *Pase*dialect the

processes of assimilation, dissimilation, loss, and prosthesis were not found which is contradictive with Millar (2015:48) and Crystal (2004:330).

The changes of lexical meaning rooted from the process of narrowing, extension, figurative and pejoration. These patterns are precisely congruent with the theory of Crystal (2004:345) who says that the meaning of the word is narrowed and adopted to another concept and transferred, but some patterns proposed by Crystal (2004:345) were not found in *Pase*dialect such as shift and amelioration.

D. CONCLUSIONS & SUGGESTION

Two main conclusions can be drawn from the research such as (1) the lexical change of *Pase* dialect appeared in every type of lexical change. It is divided into lexical loss, lexical borrowing, phonological change, and semantic change, (2) The lexical change patterns of *Pase* dialect were realized in various ways based on its types. Firstly, lexical loss was proportionally patterned into potential loss. Secondly, lexical borrowing flows under the three concise patterns, they are loan-words, loan-blend, and loan-translation. Thirdly, phonological change was found in patterns such as *lenition, fortition, vowel* and *syllable structure, syncope, apocope,* and *epenthesis.* Fourthly, semantic change patterns of *Pase* dialect found were categorized only into *narrowing, extension, figurative use, and pejoration.*

It is advisable to the language users of *Pase* dialect in their daily life at home, office, and school. Consequently, their language attitude towards *Pase* dialect will eventually increase by itself. The researcher strongly suggests to the local government of *Pase* dialect regency to take into account about the maintenance and standardization of *Pase* dialect through the writing of a dictionary

The researcher also expects that the teacher, students and others begin to write more frequently in *Pase* dialect. This technique is indispensably useful to gain the access of another expert's interest and attention about the entity of *Pase* dialect.

To the linguists, other researchers and those who are highly interested to conduct a scientific study of *Pase* dialect, it is suggested to investigate the practical techniques of minimizing the number of lexical loss and increasing the number of lexical borrowing of *Pase* dialect. Through this way, the development of *Pase* dialect will emerge among other tribes.

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