



**KINSHIP LEVEL BETWEEN JAVANESE AND
SUNDANESE LANGUAGES IN MEDAN NORTH SUMATERA**

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ABSTRACT

The aims of this study to determine the level of kinship. This study used a mixed method, employing 300 Swadesh vocabulary lists that have been modified to fit the Austronesian languages. The source of the data in this study is the informants who are the native speaker of Javanese and Sundanese language who live in Medan Tembung and Medan Timur, to pronounce the Javanese and Sundanese 300 Swadesh Vocabulary list. The Lexicostatistics approach was used to analyze the data. The result of data analysis revealed that there were 137 word pairs or 46% out of 300 swadesh vocabulary list. The kinship level of Javanese and Sundanese Languages is in of Family group. keywords must be written to describe the research scope observed, as well as the main terms undergirding the research

Keywords: *Lexicostatistics, Kinship Level, Separation time, Phonemic Correspondence*

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INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is a multilingual and multicultural country. Lewis, Simons, and Fenning (2013) identify several hundred languages spoken throughout the archipelago (706 distinctive languages at the present count). While the languages are related in some circumstances, none of them are mutually intelligible; thus, they are classified as different languages rather than dialects. The languages spoken in Indonesia are classified as Austronesian or Polynesian Malay (Nababan, 1991: 18).

Communication and cooperation between two different social groupings lead language to grow and change throughout time (Nababan, 1991:17). Because of adjustments for communication fluency, this transformation results in a similarity in form and meaning between the two languages. If there are two or more groups of language speakers who have little interaction or are even isolated, these groups will experience comparatively distinctive changes and developments.

At time, Indonesian use as the language of communication between ethnicities, problem will occur that are related with understanding language through the vocabulary used. Researchers have long been interested in the introduction of two or more languages. The questions that arose in the search for the relationship between one language and another in the past, or whether there was once a single language that was then split into languages around the world, urged linguists to investigate this possibility.

The kinship of two different languages is discussed in this study. In Medan, North Sumatra, Indonesia, the languages raised in this study are Javanese and Sundanese. Medan, as the capital of the province of North Sumatra in Indonesia, is a multicultural city with a diverse range of ethnicities and regional languages. The Javanese and Sundanese languages kinship are related in terms of both lexical items and phonemic correspondence. Javanese and Sundanese language are similar or closely related, we don't know if they are differ until the person tells us what language they are use. Most of people think that Javanese and Sundanese are still in one family language but some are not.

The comparative method in historical linguistics is concerned with the reconstruction of an earlier language or earlier state of a language on the basis of a comparison of related words and expressions in different languages or dialects derived from it. In comparative historical linguistics, the data from one or more language are studied, at least in two periods. These data are compared in order to obtain the rules changes that occur in the language (Keraf, 1992:22). The lexicostatistic technique is a technique in classifying languages by prioritising the recording of words (lexicons) statistically by using research instruments in the form of a list of 300 Swadesh vocabulary words.

This study is limited to Javanese and Sundanese language in general, because both of the languages have similarities on their vocabularies which show them the language kinship. Javanese and Sundanese language are the local languages that have similar vocabulary which will be analyzed by using the comparative historical language including the kinship level.

METHODOLOGY

This research uses mixed method in terms of lexicostatistics technique. This research use both qualitative and quantitative method, qualitative method will be used in describing the data as well as in comparing the data of two languages to identify the phonemes. The quantitative method will be used to calculate the kinship level percentage. The instrument of the data is documentary sheet which contain 300 lexical items listed in Swadesh list to be translated into Javanese and Sundanese language by Javanese and Sundanese native speakers to identify the kinship level of both languages.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

Determining the criteria of kinship level

From the 300 Javanese and Sundanese Swadesh basic core vocabularies, they are found 163 lexicons that cannot be counted as kinship words and there are 137 lexicons that are categorized as kinship words. The researcher in this step then calculated the kinship level by using the formula proposed by Keraf. The criteria of kinship level between Javanese and Sundanese languages is *language of family* with the cognate number is 137 kinship word pairs and the percentage is 46%. It is seen on the table 4.1 below.

Table 1. Kinship Level of Subgrouping

Level of subgrouping	Shared cognate percentage in core vocabulary (%)
Dialects of a language	81-100
Language of family	36-81
Families of a stock	12-36
Stocks of a microphylum	4-12
Microphyla of Mesophylum	1-4
Mesophyla of Macrophyllum	0-1

The 46% kinship level or cognate numbers between Javanese and Sundanese languages was obtained by calculating the cognate numbers which are 137 lexicons of kinship words using the following formula.

$$H = \frac{J}{G} \times 100\%$$

$$H = \frac{\text{Number of cognates words}}{\text{Number of words compared}} \times 100\% = \dots \%$$

Known, J = 137, and G = 300

$$H = \frac{137}{300} \times 100\% = 46\%$$

There are 137 kinship words or counted lexicon between Javanese and Sundanese languages were classified as a kinship because they have related words in terms of lexical items and phonemes and there are 163 uncounted words or were not classified as kinship words. The classification is displayed in the table 2 and table 3 below.

Based on 300 Swadesh vocabularies translated into Javanese and Sundanese, there are 163 lexicons that cannot be counted as kinship words, as shown in the table 4.1.1.1 (See Appendix B) below.

Table 2. Uncounted Lexicon

No.	Word Number List	Lexicon	Javanese Language	Sundanese Language
1	2	<i>ada</i> [available]	eneng	aya
2	3	<i>air</i> [water]	banyu	ci
3	4	<i>aku</i> [I]	kulo	abdi
4	6	<i>anak</i> [child]	lare	budak
5	8	<i>anjing</i> [dog]	asu	anying

For example word no. 2 [ada], doesn't have kinship in Javanese and Sundanese language, in Javanese [ada] is *eneng* and in Sundanese is *aya*. The word pairs are not related in terms of the lexical item and the phonemes. The word pairs above are considered as uncounted lexicon because there are no kinship between the compared words.

Based on 300 Swadesh vocabularies translated into Javanese and Sundanese, there are 137 lexicons that are categorized as kinship words, as shown in the table 4.1.1.2 (See Appendix C) below.

Table 3. Counted Lexicon

No.	Word Number List	Lexicon	Javanese Language	Sundanese Language
1	1	<i>abu</i> [dust]	awu	abu
2	5	<i>ambil</i> [take]	jipuk	njupuk
3	7	<i>angin</i> [wind]	angen	angin
4	11	<i>asap</i> [smoke]	asep	haseup
5	12	<i>atap</i> [roof]	atep	hateup

The word pairs above are considered as counted lexicon or kinship word pairs because those words meet the criterion of kinship words they are identical, phonemic correspondence and one different phoneme. The word no. 1 *abu* [awu] [abu] is considered as *One different phoneme* kinship words because there is only one phoneme differs them. The word no. 5 *ambil* [Jipuk] [Njupuk] is considered as *Phonemic Correspondence* because the two words are related because they have the same phoneme and meaning.

Even if the uncounted lexicon presented on the **table 2** above was higher than the counted lexicon, thus it doesn't represent the estimate calculation. The counted lexicon in the **table 3** was used in calculating the kinship level between Javanese and Sundanese Languages. As a matter of fact, this present study used 300 Swadesh vocabulary list that have been modified to fit the Austronesian languages especially Javanese and Sundanese language. The reason why the researcher used the modified 300 Swadesh vocabulary is to avoid the double meaning that might be cause an ambiguity in translating them into Javanese and Sundanese language. Also, most of the lexical items have some differences in the translation because most of Javanese people in Medan do not talk fully in Javanese and Sundanese languages so that most of the lexical items are not fully translated into those languages but some of them translated based on how they pronounce them.

Lexicostatistics is a technique for determining the level of kinship of related languages' basic vocabulary, the separation time, and kinship level grouping, Swadesh (1956). The theory given was relevant to the present study and it was found the kinship level of Javanese and Sundanese Languages in Medan North Sumatra was Language of family with 137 kinship word pairs in total or 46% cognate percentage. A language of family is a set of languages that are connected by descent from a common ancestral or parental language, known as the proto-language of that family. It means that the Javanese and Sundanese languages was a single language before it is separated, it is seen on result of data analysis that there are 137 kinship words of Javanese and Sundanese languages and those kinship words suit the three criterion of kinship word determination they are identical, phonemic correspondence and one different phoneme.

As a matter of fact, this present study used 300 Swadesh vocabulary list that have been modified to fit the Austronesian languages especially Javanese and Sundanese language. The reason why the researcher used the modified 300 Swadesh vocabulary is to avoid the double meaning that might be cause an ambiguity in translating them into Javanese and Sundanese language. Furthermore, this present study conducted the phonemic transcriptions of each criterion of kinship words they are identical, phonemic correspondence and one different phoneme. Also, most of the lexical items have some differences in the translation because most of Javanese people in Medan do not talk fully in Javanese and Sundanese languages so that most of the lexical items are not fully translated into those languages but some of them translated based on how they pronounce them.

CONCLUSIONS

Language of family was the kinship level of Javanese and Sundanese languages, with

46 % cognate percentage. A language of family is a set of languages that are connected by descent from a common ancestral or parental language, known as the proto-language of that family. It means that the Javanese and Sundanese languages were a single language before it is separated. This present study conducted 300 modified Swadesh vocabulary list to fit the Javanese and Sundanese language in order to avoid the ambiguity of the double meaning. Furthermore, in obtaining the data of the lexical items, there are two of each participant gave different translation but the researcher managed to choose the dominant data among the informants. Furthermore, with reference to the conclusions it is advised that further studies shall raise their awareness of the need of using our local languages on a daily basis in order to save them from extinction and it is proposed that other researchers shall utilize this study as a reference for conducting additional research on comparing several local languages in Indonesia.

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