



**LANGUAGE MAINTENANCE OF JAVANESE TEENAGERS
AT DESA PAMUKTARAN**

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ABSTRACT

This study deals with the language maintenance of Javanese teenagers of Desa Pamuktaran preserve. It uses qualitative research design with a single case study to gain an understanding on this study. It is conducted descriptively. This study aims to describe what language maintenance do the Javanese people of Desa Pamuktaran preserve. The subjects were 15 participants of the third generations that have selected as the source of data in this study. The use of instruments in this study were observation, interview and documentation. The observation were used describe what language maintenance do the Javanese people of Desa Pamuktaran preserve. The interview was used in depth data. The theories of Fasold, Fishman and Holmes are used in this study. The data were analyzed Miles and Huberman and Saldana's technique. The data from questionnaire will be analyzed by using the following steps; (1) data reduction, (2) data display, (3) verification and drawing conclusion. There are four types of language maintenance of Javanese language in Desa Pamuktaran they are low maintenance, medium maintenance, strong maintenance and extreme maintenance.

Keywords: *Language Maintenance, Javanese, Teenagers, Javanese Language, Generations*

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INTRODUCTION

Language is needed for every human being to communicate to other people. Language is the basis of all communication. Without language, no culture in society will not develop because people will lack a means which they can express their ideas to one

another. Language can replace events or activities that should be undertaken by individuals or groups (Aslinda, 2007:2). In accordance with his nature as a modern language used by various ethnic groups (tribes) on a variety of cultural backgrounds, religious and regional languages and is used in various fields of activities, the Indonesian also has a lot of varieties and a wide range of languages (Chaer, 2010:1). Indonesia has many ethnic group and indigenous languages. Sumatera Island is one of the biggest island in Indonesia that has varieties culture and language. South LabuhanBatu, as a part of regency in Sumatera Island, has a important role to contribute the varieties in language. Especially in South LabuhanBatu, there are many ethnics group in Labuhanbatu. Selatan. The most of ethnic is Mandailingnese. The ethnics group that migration in Desa Pamuktaran such as Javanese, malay and chinese. Javanese is minority group in South Labuhanbatu, especially in Simatahari Indah Village, because the majority is Mandailingnese. Although, javanese is a minority group, but they can maintain their language. They use their language in daily communication. Pauwels (2005) said that language maintenance is generally applied to individuals or community of speakers continuing to use their language in a situation of language contact, where there is competition from one or more languages to be the sole language used in particular domains or situations. It means that maintaining the language is important. It is supported by Holmes (2001) said that where the language is considered as an important symbol of minority group's identity, it is likely to be maintained longer. The phenomenon of Javanese community in Desa Pamuktaran, especially in Desa Simatahari Javanese had lived because of migration. They are farming and gardening. As a minority group, they can maintain their language and culture. Furthermore, the researcher caught this phenomenon as the problem of this study since the researcher noticed an ethnic group where they keep maintaining their Javanese language, as it is in desa Pamuktaran. As found in desa Pamuktaran that Javanese teenagers still maintain Javanese language in communication. They maintain their language with using their language in daily communication. There are several factors that can maintain their daily Javanese language such as the use of the term kinship in the family such asromo (father), embok (mother) mas (brother), mbak (sister), mbahwedok (grand mother), mbahlanang (grand father), the use of language in the environment around the residence, learners of the Javanese language, the social environment of the youth. They use their language at home in daily activity such as the conversation. As she found in the first observation in one of Javanese families (mother and her daughter) who live in desa Simatahari. In line with the explanation about language maintenance above, in reality during the interaction between boys and girls, there is different phenomenon, such as in the following.

1. Boy : *Ojo lali dolanan bola jam limo.*
(Don` t forget to play football at 5 p.m.)
Boy : *Iyo*
(Alright)
2. Girl : *Mengko kita sido ndelok bolane kan?*
(We will watch the futsal match today, won` t we?)
Girl : *Iyo, petok nang endi kita?*
(Of course, where will we meet?)
Girl : *Aku jemput nang omahmu wae.*
(I` ll pick up at your home)
3. Boy : *Ojo lali teko yo dadi supporter yo.*
(Don` t forget to come to support our team, yeea?)
Girl : *Iyo !*
(Okey !)

Based on the first observation above that the teenagers thinks that Javanese is the important communication tool which is still relevant in a teenager for this modern era. The teenagers really feels as Javanese people if the teenager uses Javanese to communicate each other. From the conversation of the teenagers above is one of strong maintaining to maintain Javanese in Desa pamuktaran. Tapanuli Selatan. The participants are Javanese teenagers. Boy and Girl are the third generation.

METHODOLOGY

The research design of this study was descriptive qualitative by using case study approach. A descriptive qualitative method is one of which is used to describe situations, events or occurrences, so that this method is intended to the basic data. Ary (1979) state that descriptive study was used to gain certain information about a certain phenomenon that happens when a study is conducted. It is also aimed at describing the variable that really occurred in a certain situation. The data have been collected in a variety of ways, such as observations, Interviews and tape recording. Bogdan and Biklen (1982) state that qualitative was as direct source of data and the researchers is as the key instrument. The qualitative means to find out how a theory works in Chaer, A. & Agustina, L. 2004 *Sosiolinguistik Perkenalan awal*. Rineka Cipta. Jakarta different phenomenon whose data

collected are in the words rather than number. The data of the study covered the information about the The types of language, The way of maintaining a languageways and reasons of Javanese language in desa Pamuktaran There were 15 Javanese teenagers with different ethnics in desa Pamuktaran. The numbers of the subjects were 15 Javanese teenagers. As Bogdan&Biklen (1992:32) state that “the researcher is the key instrument”. It means that everything is controlled by the researcher and it is supported with, observation sheet, questionnaire, tape recorder and interview.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

This study deals with the Language maintenance of Javanese teenagers desa Pamuktaran. The source data of the study was Javanese language maintenance occurred in teenagers daily communication. While the data of the study were transcription of Javanese utterances from interview. The data were analyzed using interactive model proposed by Miles, Huberman and Saldana (2014) namely 1) data collection, 2) data condensation, 3) data display and, 4) drawing conclusion. Data condensation referred to the process of selecting, focusing, simplifying, abstracting, and transforming the data that gained from the research. By condensing, the researcher was making data that had been collected became stronger. The first step was data selection. Selecting means the way to choose the best or most suitable data. In this research the researcher chosen the best data selection based on the language maintenance occurred, the process and the reason of language maintenance occurred in Javanese teenagers in desa Pamuktaran. Focusing means to pay attention to the suitable data. In this research the researcher only paid or chosen the suitable data for analyzing especially on the language maintenance occurred, the process and the reason of language maintenance of Javanese teenagers. Many researchers have conducted about the language maintenance. This study also took in different language, community, and place. It can be concluded that this research had different findings with the previous study and supported by previous theories. From the findings above, there are four findings that found in this study, they are (1) proficiency language maintenance, (2) acquisition of language by adults, (3) the way in maintaining a language, (4) the reason in maintaining a language that affect the Javanese teenagers in maintaining Javanese language in desa Simatahari. Some findings that find out this research are not wholly line with the theory of Holmes even there are new findings to maintain the language that found in this study. Based on the findings, there are four types in maintaining Javanese language. As Lewis (1996:21), there are three types in maintaining the language, it is not line with this study findings. In this finding, there was one finding, namely

extreme maintenance. Strong maintenance in this study means the teenagers of Javanese are not only used Javanese language in their family but also used language in their daily communication with their friends in the school and environment. In maintaining Javanese language, there are some strategies that can be conducted by minority. According to Fishman (1991), there are eight stages that can be done by the indigenous speakers in order to maintain a language. They are 1) Acquisition of the language by adults, 2) Create a socially integrated population of active speakers (or users) of the language, 3) Number of people habitually using the language, 4) All age groups encourage in the language, 5) Encourage the use of the language in compulsory state education, 6) Encourage the use of the language in workplace, 7) Encourage the use of the language in local government services and mass media, 8) Encourage the use of language in higher education and government. In this study, there were four strategies that conducted by Javanese teenagers in desa Simatahari to maintain Javanese language. They are 1) Acquisition of the language by adults, 2) Create a socially integrated population of active speakers (or users) of the language, 3) Number of people habitually using the language, 4) teach the language to younger sister/brother. The findings of this research were not wholly line with Fishman (1991) strategies. He stated, there are eight strategies that conduct to maintain the vernacular language but in this research only found two strategies that conducted by Javanese teenagers in desa Simatahari to maintain Javanese language because this study conducted in different language and place.

According to some experts (Holmes, Thomas, Baker, and Fishman), the reasons in maintaining the language, there are five reasons namely, (1) to express and identity or an ethnic, (2) to achieve honor, (3) hope, self esteem, and self pride, (4) to help their community to develop and progress, and (5) for the essentially of language diversity. From findings of this study, the researcher found that Javanese teenagers maintain their language, there are four reasons, they are (1) to express identity, (2) to achieve self pride, (3) to tell certain issue, (4) to create closer relationship. These findings are extremely different with previous theories. The reasons of telling certain issue and creating closer relationship are not line with theory, both of them are new findings in this study. To tell certain issue is used when they want to tell something secret to others. From informants' information, they use Javanese language to make other ethnics not understand what they said and the next one, to create closer relationship, it means that when they use Javanese language, it will make them closer and know more. It is like know for long time to maintain Javanese language because this study conducted in different language and place. According to some experts (Holmes, Thomas, Baker, and Fishman), the reasons in maintaining the language, there are five reasons namely,

(1) to express and identity or an ethnic, (2) to achieve honor ,(3)hope, self esteem, and self pride, (4) to help their community to develop and progress, and (5) for the essentially of language diversity. From findings of this study, the researcher found that Javanese people maintain their language, there are four reasons, they are(1) to express identity, (2) to achieve self pride, (3) to tell certain issue, (4) to creat closer relationship. These findings are extremely different with previous theories. The reasons of telling certain issue and creating closer relationship are not line with theory, both of them are new findings in this study. To tell certain issue is used when they want to tell something secret to others. From informants' information, they use Javanese language to make other ethnics not understand what they said and the next one, to creat closer relationship, it means that when they use Javanese language, it will make them closer and know more. It is like know for along time even though they just meet for the first time. This study was supported by Holmes (2001) which stated that when the language see as to express identity, to achieve self pride, it is generally maintain longer. They spoke Javanese language because they are proud of being Javanese teenagers. The use of Javanese language in their daily communication showed their identity as Javanese teenagers. Thus, the attitude of Javanese teenagers toward their vernacular supported them in maintaining their language. Furthermore, the maintenance of Javanese language is also the maintenance

of culture because every culture activity needs to use a language. For this case, Javanese language is an element national culture for Indonesian should be preserved. Even though they just meet for the first time. This study was supported by Holmes (2001) which stated that when the language see as to express identity, to achieve self pride, it is generally maintain longer. They spoke Javanese language because they are proud of being Javanese teenagers. The use of Javanese language in their daily communication showed their identity as Javanese teenagers. Thus, the attitude of Javanese teenagers toward their vernacular supported them in maintaining their language. Furthermore, the maintenance of javanese language is also the maintenance of culture because every culture activity needs to use a language. For this case, Javanese language is an element national culture for Indonesian should be perserved.

CONCLUSIONS

This study focused on the maintenance of Javanese language in desa Pamuktaran. It was aimed to gain the types, ways, and reasons to support Javanese language maintenance in desa Pamuktaran . Based on the analysis, the conclusions are:There are four types of language maintenance of Javanese language in desa Simatahari, they are low maintenance, medium

maintenance, strong maintenance and extreme maintenance. The process of language maintenance that conducted by Javanese people in desa Simatahari were not all of processes from the theory occurred in the field, there are eight ways in maintaining the language in the theory, but in this study, there are two ways found to maintain the language. They are join the group, teach the language to younger sister/brother. This study found four reasons why they maintain their language in the way they do. There are two new findings from this study. They are to tell certain issue, to create closer relationship. Javanese language is the national culture of Indonesia that should be preserved.

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