

DIGLOSSIA SITUATION OF JAVANESE DELI SPEAKERS IN HAMPARAN PERAK DISTRICTS DELI SERDANG REGENCY

SITUATION DIGLOSLIA PENUTUR BAHASA JAWA DELI DI KECAMATAN HAMPARAN PERAK KABUPATEN DELI SERDANG

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Abstract

This research aims to explore the domains and variations of language use in the diglossia situation among Javanese Deli speakers in Hamparan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency. A qualitative research method was employed, focusing on the Javanese Deli speakers in this region. The study found that diglossia occurs across several domains: family, social, professional, religious, and transactional. Each domain exhibits distinct diglossia characteristics. In the family domain, the use of a higher language variant is often influenced by the educational background of the family head. In social interactions, a lower language variant is used when speakers share the same ethnic background, particularly among Javanese Deli people. The religious domain sees the use of a higher variant, as the district is predominantly inhabited by Javanese, Deli, and Malay communities, making Indonesian the preferred language to avoid conflicts. In professional and transactional contexts, a lower variant is commonly used, with occasional shifts to a higher variant in informal situations. Overall, the study reveals that the lower language variant is more prevalent, supporting the preservation of the Javanese Deli language in Hamparan Perak District.

Keywords: Diglossia situation, Domain, Javanese Deli Speakers

Abstrak

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengkaji domain dan variasi penggunaan bahasa dalam Situation diglosia di kalangan penutur Jawa Deli di Kecamatan Hamparan Perak, Kabupaten Deli Serdang. Penelitian ini menggunakan metode kualitatif dengan fokus pada penutur Jawa Deli di wilayah tersebut. Hasil penelitian menunjukkan bahwa Situation diglosia terjadi dalam beberapa domain, yaitu: keluarga, sosial, profesional, keagamaan, dan transaksi. Masing-masing domain memiliki karakteristik diglosia yang unik. Di domain keluarga, penggunaan varian bahasa tinggi sering kali dipengaruhi oleh latar belakang pendidikan kepala keluarga. Dalam domain sosial, varian bahasa rendah lebih sering digunakan ketika penutur berasal dari latar belakang etnis yang sama, terutama di kalangan masyarakat Jawa Deli. Di domain keagamaan, varian bahasa tinggi lebih dominan karena keberagaman etnis di kecamatan ini, yaitu Jawa, Deli, dan Melayu, sehingga bahasa Indonesia dipilih untuk menghindari potensi konflik. Dalam konteks profesional dan transaksi, varian bahasa rendah lebih umum digunakan, meskipun terkadang ada pergeseran ke varian tinggi dalam Situation informal. Secara keseluruhan, penelitian ini menunjukkan bahwa varian bahasa rendah lebih dominan, sehingga mendukung pelestarian bahasa Jawa Deli di Kecamatan Hamparan Perak.

Kata Kunci: Situation Diglosia, Domain, Penutur Jawa Deli

Introduction

Indonesia is the largest archipelagic country in the world. It spans from Sabang at the west end, to Merauke at the east end. This condition allows Indonesia to become a country rich in regional culture, one of which is language. Regional languages in Indonesia develop in one place, but in the process the speakers also spread them to various regions in Indonesia. According to data from labbineka.kemdikbud.go.id, there are roughly 718 regional languages scattered throughout Indonesia (Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa, 2019). This is in keeping with what was expressed by Ferdinand De Saussure (Aidid, 2020) that language is the most important distinguishing feature since with language every social group feels itself as a different entity from other groupings. Thus, language is the identity of a community group that makes it different from other community groups.

North Sumatra is a province inhabited by many Javanese and non-Javanese tribes and ethnic groups. In this region, there is a community organization known as "Java Deli" or "Jadel." Java Deli is a group of people who have been relocated from the island of Java to the plantations of North Sumatra since colonial times. The majority of Javanese Deli people labor in plantations around North Sumatra (Sinar, 2010). Some Javanese cultural practices are still practiced in the Deli Javanese population, however the younger generation does not speak Javanese as fluently as they do in their native Java. The Javanese they speak appears to have been influenced by local languages, since new words have been added to the vocabulary of Deli Javanese.

Sociolinguistics is the branch of linguistics that investigates the link between language and language users (society). Sociolinguistics, according to Fishman (1972), is the study of the characteristics of language variation, the function of language variation, and the use of language because these three elements interact and change one another within a speech community, the social identity of the speaker, and the social environment in which speech events occur. and the degree of linguistic diversity and variance. Therefore, society determines the emergence of language diversity.

This linguistic diversity leads to the phenomenon known as bilingualism, where individuals can speak or master two languages. Sociolinguistically, Mackey and Fishman define bilingualism as the use of two languages by speakers to communicate with others (Chaer & Agustina, 2005). There is a strong connection between bilingualism and diglossia. Diglossia refers to a situation in a community where different language variants are used in distinct contexts (Ferguson, 1959). In Indonesian, for example, there are two language varieties: formal and informal. These two forms are used in different contexts in daily life. This study explores the diglossia situation among Javanese Deli speakers in Hamparan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency, North Sumatra.

Very few research has been conducted on the diglossia problem in Indonesian society. A study by Lili Agustina and Zulkifli (2014) studied the situation of diglossia in Central Kalimantan's Ngaju-speaking people. This research encompasses seven areas, including the realms of family, association, buying and selling transactions, religion, government, education, and the profession. Waode Sitti Aisya Kahaz (2019) investigates the status of diglossia at the Al-Shaykh Abdul Wahid Modern Islamic Boarding School in Baubau City in an article devoted to the topic. This study focuses on the language spoken in the Pondok Pesantren area.

In addition, Achmad and Abdullah (H.P & Alek, 2012) described diglossia as a linguistic condition characterized by the employment of high (H) and low (L) language in a speech community. If diglossia is defined as the presence of functional distinctions in the use of language, particularly the high variety function (H) and the low variety function (L), then bilingualism is the condition of using two languages interchangeably in a culture. Previous research on the association between diglossia and bilingualism has been conducted by Suandi (2014), who describes the relationship between the two in the following table:

		Diglossia	
Bilingualisme	+	Bilingualism and Diglossia	Bilingualism without diglossia
	-	Diglossia without bilingualism	No bilingualism, no diglossia

Method

This study employs a qualitative methodological technique. This is due to the fact that the qualitative method is anticipated to generate a description of the speech, writing, and observable behavior of a person, group, or community. This research use descriptive qualitative methodology.

The steps involved in data analysis are as follows.

- a. Collecting data from observations, interviews, recordings, and documents, then analyzing the state of the speech community's language in Hamparan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency based on the acquired data.
- b. Analyzing the condition of diglossia in speech communities. Then, the previously evaluated data are classified according to the data collecting table.
- c. Following this, inferences can be derived from the analyzed data.

Result and Discussion

Based on the results of interviews with Javanese Deli speakers in Hamparan Perak sub-district, the diglossia situation that occurs is found in several speech domains, namely the family domain, the social domain, the religious domain, the professional domain, and the domain of buying and selling transactions. The five domains are described as follows:

Family Domain

In the family domain, usually speakers of regional languages are more likely to use their regional languages in communicating with fellow family members to create a friendly atmosphere and preserve the regional language, but different things happen to Javanese Deli language speakers who are in this family domain. The informant named Masbudiono (38 years old) uses Indonesian in daily communication with his father, Mr. Suprpto Idrus (70 years). The situation of diglossia can be seen in the speech below.

- Place : at the yard
 Situation : a son asks his father hoeing in the yard to go home soon because it has been noon.
 Language : Indonesia
 Situation : Informal
 Participant : Son (38 years old) and father (70 years old)
 Son : Dad, please go home, it has been noon.
 Father : Yes, my son.
 Son : How do you go home?
 Father : By bicycle.
 Son : Ok dad, be careful.
 Father : Ok.

In these speech events the use of Indonesian as a high variety (T) is used in the family realm. The use of Indonesian is influenced by factors of age, education level and also the level of association. Both speakers work as farmers and ranchers at this time. However, the speaker, namely Mr. Idrus, comes from an educated family where the teaching profession is attached to him. In addition, the son

has also worked with foreigners abroad and this has an influence on the use of Indonesian in the family realm. However, when it is viewed from the diglossia situation, the use of the Indonesian language used is also informal so that the determination of the variety of this situation is less for Deli Javanese speakers.

Social Domain

In the realm of association, the possibility of speakers from various ethnicities will appear so that the choice of high variety is likely to occur. In the diglossia situation of Javanese Deli speakers, speakers more often use Deli Javanese language or even mix it with Indonesian to speakers of the same ethnicity. Informants who became speakers in this diglossia situation were Masbudiono (34 years old) and a friend named Mr. Ahmad Sarial (65 years old). The situation of diglossia can be seen in the speech below.

- Place : at the mosque
 Situation : Masbudiono has been absent for two days to be at the mosque because of being sick. The next day, one of the pilgrims and also Masbudiono's friend asked why he did not come.
 Language : Deli Javanese language and Indonesian
 Situation : Informal
 Participant : Masbudiono (38 years old) and Friend (65 years old)
- Sahril : Kue nande ae nggak ketok-ketok? (where have you been?)
 Masbudiono : Sakit, nggak iso teko, awak e denyut. (I was sick, cannot come, my body was throbbing)
 Sahril : Engko sampa e diguang, sampah nang sumur juga. Mbuange dono, nang sebelah kanan. (later, the trash both in the trash can and in the bathroom was thrown away throw it over there.)
 Masbudiono : Iyo pak. (yes Sir)
 Sahril : Siap buang sampah kue arak nande? (after this, where are you going?)
 Masbudiono : Arak peres susu kambing. (I want to squeeze the goat's milk)
 Sahril : piro segelas? (how much is it for one glass?)
 Masbudiono : 10 ribu. Balek sek yo pak. Assalamu'alaikum. (ten thousand rupiahs, ok see later, Assalamu'alaikum)
 Sahril : Hati-hati. (be careful)

In these speech events, the speakers used Javanese Deli and Indonesian, but the use of Javanese Deli was more dominant than the use of Indonesian. Indonesian language that appears in the diglossia situation can be known as code-mixing. The use of variety in the social domain uses a low variety (L) because the use of Javanese Deli language is more prominently used than Indonesian.

Religious Domain

The majority of the people in Hamparan Perak sub-district are Muslims, who are predominantly Malay and Javanese. In the realm of religion, the preachers who often attend recitations in mosques or prayer rooms are held every Friday. Hamparan Perak sub-district is dominated by Javanese and Malay tribes, but in delivering religious lectures the preacher (ustadz) uses Indonesian as a means to convey da'wah or messages of kindness to the congregation. In this diglossia situation, the use of high variance is used.

Professional Domain

In the realm of professions, the use of high variance may be used more often, but in certain professions there is a low variety that is used as in the following speech event. Masbudiono (38 years old) has a professional friend named Mr. Usuf (58 years old). Masbudiono and Mr. Usuf are breeders

by profession. The two of them were discussing the topic of livestock. The situation of diglossia can be seen in the speech below.

Place	: at the cowshed
Situation	: Masbudiono visits to Mr. Usuf's house and they talk about the cattle.
Language	: Deli Javanese language and Indonesian
Situation	: Informal
Participant	: Masbudiono (38 years old) and Mr. Usuf (58 years old)
Masbudiono	: Wak, opo kabare wak? (sir, how are you?)
Usuf	: Sehat. (good)
Masbudiono	: Lembu e manak e opo? Lanang opo wedok wak? (Did the cow bear? Male or female sir?)
Usuf	: Alhamdulillah lanang. (Thanks God, male)
Masbudiono	: Iso gawe tabungan yo wak. (it could be for savings Sir)
Usuf	: Iyo. (yes, it is)
Masbudiono	: Wak, nek delok bibit lembu jeng model gedi kepiye wak? (sir, how to look at the cow seed with the big body sir?)
Usuf	: Sekele jejek, kuku e gedi, tulang sekele tulang loro, dodo e ombo, tanduk e procol. (the legs are tough, the toe nails are big, the leg bones are two bones, the chest is wide, no horn).
Masbudiono	: Oh ngono yow wak. (oh, I see, sir)

From the above speech events, Javanese Deli speakers also use Javanese Deli in the professional realm, although there is still Indonesian and Arabic inserted such as the words healthy, model, Alhamdulillah. The use of low variance in this speech event uses low variance because the professions of the two speakers are professions related to the realm of government or education that allow formal situations to occur.

Buying and Selling Transaction Domain

In the realm of buying and selling transactions, usually high variance but more informal is used in this diglossia situation. Masbudiono (38 years) and Najjar (28 years) are business partners. They both work as breeders but Najjar also works as a provider of feed ingredients for livestock such as tofu dregs. In the following speech event, Masbudiono wanted to buy tofu dregs from Najjar. The situation of diglossia can be seen in the speech below.

Place	: on the phone
Situation	: Masbudiono wants to buy the animal feed in the form of tofu dregs to Najjar.
Language	: Deli Javanese language and Indonesian
Situation	: Informal
Participant	: Masbudiono (38 years old) and Najjar (28 years old)
Masbudiono	: Assalamu'alaikum Jar, eneng ampas tahu Jar? (Assalamu'alaikum Jar, is there some tofu dregs?)
Najjar	: Engko yo mas, tak delok nang gudang sek. (I will see in the warehouse.)
Masbudiono	: Kabari yo jar nek esek eneng. (call me if it is there)
Najjar	: Iyo mas. Mas, iki ampas tahu e wes eneng, ending dijimuk. Engko selak dijimuk uwong. (ok, brother, here it is. Please take it soon or other people will do it)
Masbudiono	: Iyo Jar, siap ngaret sek. (ok Jar, I will go there after I have finished cutting the grass)
Najjar	: Iyo mas. (ok brother)

In speech events in the realm of buying and selling transactions, it can be seen that between buyers and sellers use the Javanese Deli language, although some Indonesian words are inserted, but the use of Javanese Deli is still dominant. The variety used in buying and selling transactions between the Javanese Deli tribes uses a low variety, but for buying and selling transactions with different ethnic groups the Indonesian language is used. The use of this low variety in the speech event shows that the preservation of the Javanese Deli language is still strong so that the preservation of the Deli Javanese language can still survive.

Conclusion

Based on the results of the analysis of the diglossia situation in the Javanese Deli language speakers in Hampan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency, the following conclusions can be drawn;

1. The diglossia situation that occurs in Javanese Deli speakers occurs in several domains, namely the family domain, the social domain, the professional domain, the religious domain, and the domain of buying and selling transactions.
2. The situation of diglossia that occurs in each domain is different. In the family domain, the diglossia situation that uses high variance is influenced by the background of the head of the family who comes from the educational environment. In the realm of association, the use of low variety is used if the speaker comes from the same ethnic group, namely Java Deli. In the realm of religion, the use of high variety is used because in Hampan Perak district is dominated by Javanese, Deli and Malay tribes so that the use of Indonesian is more appropriate to use in the realm of religion so as not to cause conflict. In the realm of professions and buying and selling transactions, the use of low variance is used because professional friends and the relationship between the buyer and seller are from the same ethnic group and there is also an insertion of the use of high variance but in informal situations.
3. From several diglossia situations in several domains found, the use of low variety is more dominantly used so as to enable the preservation of the Deli Javanese language in Hampan Perak District, Deli Serdang Regency.

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