



Assimilation and Phoneme Distribution in Pariaman and Kumango Dialects

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ABSTRACT: Medan is the capital of Indonesia's North Sumatera Province and has 21 districts and 151 sub-districts (kelurahan); eight percent of its population are Minangkabau people. In 1930s the first large groups of Minangkabau migrants came to Medan and most of them primarily dwelled in Kota Matsum sub-district as well as in Pusat Pasar (central market) which were considered strategic for business activities. This study uses descriptive qualitative approach and is specifically concerned with the distribution of phonemes among Minangkabau migrants who have lived in Medan which is a distant city from their native land. Although this study is an initial attempt to investigate the relationship of space with language changes, it is successful to identify the characteristics of Pariaman and Kumango dialects, especially the distribution of phonemes, in Medan. This study was conducted in two districts, namely, Medan Perjuangan and Medan Tembung. The empirical part of this study was carried out in 2015 and data were gathered with the help of Minangkabau migrants as population through a series of intensive interviews which were conducted with appointments and were recorded on audiotape. In addition, respondents filled questionnaires to indicate their preferences when they thought that oral information was not clearly heard. The sample was randomly selected and involved about 25% of the whole population. The results did not support the expectations that Pariaman and Kumango did not change in their distribution of phonemes. On the basis of the results of this research, it can be concluded that distribution of phonemes occurred in some certain phonemes; most of them underwent changes and the rest remained unchanged. The data support the view that phoneme differences are always found in a language and its dialects (Hasan, 1991:4).

Keywords: Distribution, phonemes, dialectology, Pariaman, Kumango, Minangkabau migrants, Medan

I. INTRODUCTION

Medan is the capital of Indonesia's North Sumatera Province and has 21 districts and 151 sub-districts (kelurahan); eight percent of its population are Minangkabau people (MP). In 1930s the first large groups of MP migrants came to Medan and most of them primarily dwelled in Kota Matsum sub-district as well as in Pusat Pasar (central market) which were considered strategic for business activities. In 1950s another big groups targeted some other areas, such as, Sukaramai, Halat, Bromo, Denai, and Mandala and both the first and the second groups were dominated by MP's Pariaman who were well-known as business-oriented people (www.lenteranatinun.com/mengendus-minang-deli/19-1-2013).^[1] They brought with them their native Minangkabau language (ML) and dialects, for instance, Pariaman, Kumango, Bukit Tinggi, Bayur, Bonjol, and among others although this paper is aimed at assimilation and phoneme distribution of Pariaman and Kumango (APD&PK) dialects.

The ML is one of the Austronesian languages although it was ever brought into hot debate among Malays who determined that the ML was under sub-Malay because there were a lot of similarities in vocabularies and speech forms with Malay. The MP believed, in fact, that their ML was older than Malay; however, we argue that the ML is a branch of the Proto-Malay dialect ([http // www.google.com / ur? Sa = t & q = J & q = tribes](http://www.google.com/ur?Sa=t&q=J&q=tribes)). The ML in Medan shifted from its original language through times in the levels of phonemes, words, phrases, and/or expressions. Trudgill argued that dialects are the portion of a language and have the properties to distinguish between one and the other and these dialects shifted over time (1980:3). The development of dialects can include broad area of use and might become the standard language, or it might even

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disappear. They have either improving or deteriorating developments and all this depends on contributing factors whether they are either internal or external (Ayatrohaedi, 1983).^[2]

Language preservation should be carried out since each language undergoes shift which gives impacts on cultural pride and love. The MP's cultural patterns are appropriate with the motions of reforms, the principles of solidarity, the social justice, and with the people's prosperity; all the essences of democracy have become the main foundation of this people's indigenous life and culture up to nowadays. The MP are known to hold rules strictly with their main principle of 'Adat bersendi kitabullah' (The adat is based on God holy book). This research used the diachronic dialectology approach (Mahsun, 1995:13).^[3] The question is: how far do the assimilation and phoneme distribution in Pariaman and Kumango dialects undergo changes?

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE

Dialectology is concerned with different sets of utterances depends on the history of the area concerned related to lexical aspect (Samsuri, 1974:52),^[4] to empirical data (Parera, 2004:107),^[5] to sign system to contrast between vowels as well as interconsonant contrast (Kainakainu et.al., 1998:35),^[6] and to phoneme differences (Hasan, 1991:4).^[7] Dialectology also tries to find similarities and differences of phonetic variations although these variations are only used here to find the relationship of phoneme distributions. To see the determination of groups at the observation points, we are supported by linguistic comparative and dialectometry, which were further applied by Ayatrohaedi (1978) and Mahsun (1980),^[8] by Petyt's (1980:16) concept on vocabulary, pronunciation, and grammar,^[9] and by Djajasudarwa's (1993; 23) expansion of basic meaning and significance or of denotative, connotative, and emotive meanings.^[10]

III. METHODOLOGY

This research is qualitative and aimed at observing, interacting, and understanding people and their language and environment as well as at interpreting the world around them (Nasution, 1996:5).^[11] The data was both primary and secondary; the first was carried out through interviews which was recorded at the observation points and Ayatrohaedi (1978). Population were all Minangkabau immigrants who have been living for more than ten years in two districts, namely, Medan Perjuangan and Medan Tembung and only 25% of them became samples. These districts were chosen because they were distant each other and of these two districts, two kelurahan were selected as samples of location.

IV. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Variations in APD&PK might appear in assimilation, ellipsis, and paralog. There occurred vocal and consonant assimilation. The vocal / a / in Pariaman becomes / o / in Kumango as found in the pairs of words such as sanang - sonang, dakek - dokek, jala - joloah, lamak - lomak, labek - lobek, and among others. In case of Pariaman's diphthongs / ui / they change to vowel / u / in Kumango, for example, paruik - paruk, takuik - taku, sabuik - sabuk, takajuik - takaju, suduik - sudu, dakek - dokek and among others. Table 1 gives a complete description of vocal assimilation in Pariaman and Kumango.

Tabel 1. Assimilation of Pariaman and Kumango's vowels / e-o-a /

No	Indonesian /e/	Kumango /o/	Pariaman/a/	Assimilation
1	Senang 'happy'	Sonang	Sanang	e-o-a
2	Dekat 'near'	Dokek	Dakek	e-o-a
3	Jala 'net'	Joloah	Jala	a-o-a
4	Petai 'petai fruit'	Potai	Patai	e- o-a
5	Tengkar 'recalcitrant'	Tongkoah	Tangka	e-o - a
6	Enak 'delicious'	Lomak	Lamak	e-o-a
7	Jengkol 'jengkol fruit'	Joring	Jarring	e-o-a
8	Perut 'stomach'	Paruk	Peruik	e-a-e
9	Kanan 'right' (opposite of left)	Kidoah	Kida	a-a-o
10	Lapar 'hungry'	Lopoah	Lapa	a-ah-a
11	Lebat 'bushy'	Lobek	Labek	e-o-a

Consonant assimilation in Pariaman and Kumango dialects happens in the beginning, middle, end and there is even an overall change which produces new words from dialect source to the target languages although meaning does not change (see Table 2). Table 1 also shows that some consonants, for example, the consonants / s /, / d /, / j /, / p /, / t /, / l /, and / k / in the initial position in Kumango remain unchanged in Pariaman.

Tabel 2. Assimilation of consonants

No	Source	Kumango	Pariaman	Changes
1	Ayah 'father'	Apak	Abak	y-p-b
2	Jalar 'vine'	Joloah	Jala	Ah
3	Nenek 'grandmother'	Atuak	Anduang	t-nd-ak-ang
4	Cantik 'beautiful'	Anjak	Ranjak	a-r
5	Sering 'often'	Kadok	Ajok	k-a-d-j
6	Tersenggol 'nudge'	Talantuang	Tasenggol	l-s-t-gg

In the APD&PK phoneme distribution shows three possibilities, such as, the unavailability of change from source to the target, the fading in the target, and the shift from words into phrases and/or complete shift. Table 3 shows the distribution of phoneme / p / in the initial position in both dialects. There are deletions of vowel / a / in (3) and vowel / a / and nasal / ng / in (7). The rest do not undergo changes. Meanwhile, Table 4 displays distribution of phoneme / c / appearing in the initial positions and such phoneme does not change in the target language.

Tabel 3. Distribution of phoneme / p /

No	Kumango	Pariaman	Meaning
1	Pacik	Pacik	'hold'
2	Panjang	Panjang	'long'
3	Paruik	Paruk	'stomach'
4	Pepaya	Pisangtukuah	'papaya'
5	Pingan	Piriang	'plate'
6	Pandiar	Pakak	'stupid'
7	Uniang	Uni	'sister'
8	Banta	Bonta	'pillow'

Tabel 4. Distribution of phoneme / c /

No.	Pariaman	Kumango	Meaning
1	Caliak	Coliak	'to see'
2	Cilok	Cilok	'to steal'
3	Ciek	Ciek	'one'
4	Cubo	Cubo	'to try'
5	Cebiar	Ceremeh	'to taunt'
6	Cinto	Cinto	'love'
7	Caruik	Camek	'to speak with taboo words'
8	Muncuang	Mucuang	'mouth'
9	Etek	Aciak	'aunt'
10	Cubadak	Cubodak	'shallow'

In Table 4 referring to the example in (1) the shift of vowel / a / occurs in Pariaman and becomes / o / in Kumango and in (5) shifting of consonant / b / in the medial position to / r / in final position is found. There is a deletion of vowels / u, i / in Pariaman and turned into a vowel / e / in 7 in Kumango. There is also a shift of consonant / t / in the center position in Pariaman and turns into / c / in Kumango. A shift of vowel / a / in the initial position in Pariaman can be seen in (10) and then turns to a vowel / e / in Kumango. In case of distribution of phoneme / t / in the initial, medial, and final positions data can be seen in Table 5. In general, there is no shift in meaning except a change of shape.

Tabel 5. Distribution of phoneme / t / in the initial, middle, and final positions

No.	Kumango	Pariaman	Meaning
1	Tasuduk	Tasuruak	'cornered'
2	Takuruang	Takuruang	'trapped'
3	Rongik	Rongit	'mosquito'
4	Baitu	Bitu	'so'
5	Tutuik	Tutuk	'close'
6	Santing	Sontiang	'great'
7	Bayam	bayan	'spinach'

Table 5 shows the appearance of consonant / t / in the initial positions as written in (1), (2), and (5) and in the middle positions in (4) to (6). With reference to consonant / t / in the final position data can be seen in (3) in Pariaman. In (1) a shift occurs in the middle position when the word *tasuruak* becomes *tasuduk* showing that the consonant / d / in the middle position in Kumango changes to consonant / r / in Pariaman. While in (2) there is no any change of form but in (3) a change of form occurs from *rongik* in Kumango to *rongit* in its counterpart which is marked a change of consonant / k / to / t /. The vowels / ui / and / a / in Kumango undergo a change to be consonants / u / and / o / in Pariaman. Addition of vowel can be seen in (6) in which the vowel / i / becomes / ia / in Pariaman. The consonant / m / in the final position in (7) in Kumango should be change into / n / in Pariaman; there is a shift of consonant.

Table 6 indicates a distribution of phoneme / s / in some selected words. The phonemes /s/ and / h /in (1) and (4) in Pariaman undergo a change to /k/ and / s / in Kumango. Of 350 words it was found 18 phonemes are indicated to have shifting in Pariaman and Kumanggo.

Tabel 6. Distribution of phoneme / s /

No	Kumango	Pariaman	Meaning
1	Kolak	Sanok	'porridge'
2	Sagumpa	Saongok	'a piece of'
3	Saumah	Sarumah	'in the same home'
4	Santiang	Hebat	'clever'
5	Sonang	Sanang	'happy'
6	Saruang	Saruang	'sarong'
7	Sudu	Suduik	'corner'
8	Solomok	Selamek	'welcome/secure'
9	Tasingkok	Tasingkok	'opened'
10	Basuwo	Basobok	'to meet'
11	Salasa	Salosoah	'Tuesday'
12	Kasa	Kosoa	'rough'
13	Basuku	Basukuah	'to thank'
14	Sawuak	Maambiak	'to take'
15	Saketek	Sekenek	'a small number'
16	Salasai	Salosoi	'done/finished'

About distribution of phoneme / d / appearing in the initial position in Table 7, it does not shift from the target language as seen in (1) and(8); however, this phoneme while appearing in the center position as seen in (5) and (6) shifts. The consonant / d / which is in the initial position in (1), (2), and (8) do not shift but the phoneme in the final position shifts to vowels. The vowel /a/ turns into vowel / o / in (2) and in (8) the vowel /i/ undergo ellipsis.

Tabel 7. Distribution of phoneme /d/

No.	Kumango	Pariaman	Meaning
1	Dado	Dado	'breast'
2	Dakek	Dokek	'near'
3	Atuak	Anduang	'grandmother'
4	Aden	Ambo	'I (1 SG)'
5	Ajok	Kadok	'often'
6	Ajo	Uda	'brother'
7	Munduar	Suruk	'set back'
8	Dijapuik	Dijapuk	'picked up'
9	Mangido	Mangaloah	'to feel sad'
10	Bajudi	Baampok	'gamble'

With reference to lexical differences in Pariaman and Kumangowe found 11 words which change completely because of ellipsis, paralog as displayed in Table 8. The data above show the difference in the lexicon for marker / b / appearing in the initial and middle positions as shown in (1) and it is found a shift of /m/ to / n /, as well as data in (2) in which the words *balak* change to *baun*.

Tabel 8. Lexical differences

No.	Pariaman	Kumango	Meaning
1	Bayam	Bayan	'spinach'
2	Balak	Baun	'bad smell'
3	Baa	Barapo	'how much'
4	Berang	Bongih	'upset'
5	Eboh	Mairuk	'noisy'
6	Marabo	Marabou	'angry'
7	Rubuah	Balapuak	'falldown'
8	Mimpi	Barasian	'dream'
9	Sawuak	Maambiak	'to take'
10	Baitu	Bitu	'so'
11	Abak	Apak	'daddy'

V. CONCLUSION

Some conclusions can be drawn in the followings:

- 1) In this research it is found a varieties of forms, phonemes, and lexical differences in either syntax or semantics.
- 2) Assimilation involves vowels and consonants. Vowel /a/ in Pariaman changes to /o/ in Kumango; however, the suffix /a/ in Pariaman becomes /oh/ in Kumango. This sound change occurs regularly.
- 3) Phoneme /d/ in initial position in Kumango does not shift except in its final position. Ellipses and paralog are found in Pariaman.

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