

## **ANALYSIS OF DIFFERENCES IN THE USE OF SUNDANE LANGUAGE DIALECTS IN TENJOLAYA DISTRICT AND CIGUDEG DISTRICT, BOGOR REGENCY: A PHONOLOGICAL STUDY**

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### **ABSTRACT**

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*This research explores the differences in the use of Sundanese dialects in Tenjolaya District and Cigudeg District, Bogor Regency. The study focuses on variations in phonology, vocabulary, and how speakers in both areas use Sundanese in their daily interactions. The research employed a descriptive qualitative method through direct observation and interviews with several Sundanese speakers in the region. The findings reveal that speakers in Tenjolaya tend to use a smoother dialect that is closer to the standard form of Sundanese, while speakers in Cigudeg use a rougher dialect with vocabulary variations shaped by their local social and cultural environment. These results show that dialect differences can arise due to geographical factors, social conditions, and the language practices of the communities in each area.*

**Keywords:** Sundanese Dialect, Tenjolaya, Cigudeg, Language Variation.

## **Introduction**

Language is a message expressed through various forms of expression as a means of communication in different activities (Noerhamzah, 2017:2). According to Pateda (2011:6), language is a systematic sequence of sounds used by humans to express ideas to others. These organized sounds function to convey ideas, which are then responded to by the listener, allowing effective communication to take place.

According to Chaer (2012:32), language is a system of arbitrary sound symbols used by members of a society to cooperate, interact, and identify themselves. Keraf (1997:2) explains that language is a means of communication among members of society in the form of sound symbols produced by the human speech organs.

As time goes on, language also continues to develop, and this phenomenon is closely related to the role of society. Language speakers in one region use different dialects from those in other regions, often influenced by geography and culture. Dialect is closely related to individuals, including their speaking style, pronunciation, sentence structure, and word choice.

Differences in dialect pronunciation in a region can affect the meaning of what is spoken. When someone travels to another area and uses their usual dialect, it may hinder the communication process because others may not understand the dialect being used, and vice versa. As a result, the communication that takes place will not be

effective.

Phonology is the study of sounds produced by the human speech organs. In phonology, there are two different perspectives: phonetics and phonemics. Phonetics is a branch of phonology that studies speech sounds without considering their functional status. Phonemics, on the other hand, is a branch of phonology that examines speech sounds based on their function in distinguishing meaning (Chaer, 2009:5). Pateda (2011:3) argues that sounds in language carry phonological information, meaning sounds that have meaning-related structure, known as phonological information.

In spoken communication, intonation is a distinctive feature of each region. One example can be found in the Bogor area. From a linguistic perspective, the word terasi in Tenjolaya District, Cibitung Village is pronounced in several forms, such as tarasi [tarasi], trasi [trasi], and terasi [tətasi]. Meanwhile, in Cigudeg District, specifically in Cintamanik Hamlet, the variant delan [dəlan] is used.

In addition to these differences, this study is conducted because no previous research has been carried out in the observed area. Although linguistic studies—particularly on the Sundanese language—have been conducted before, such as the study by Siti Rahmawati entitled “Dialect Geography of the Sundanese Language in Parung Panjang District, Bogor Regency,” there is still a research gap in this specific location.

Another study by Yanti Sudaryat (2015) in the journal Bahasa dan Sastra

Sunda: Kajian Dialektologi explains that Sundanese dialects have many phonetic variations in each regency, especially in border areas such as Bogor, Sukabumi, and Banten. She emphasizes that sound shifts often occur due to social interaction between regions and the increasing mobility of society.

The main issue discussed in this study is the word order and sound patterns used by the people of Bogor.

The purpose of the researcher in choosing to analyze dialects in Bogor Regency is to inform readers that the Bogor area has a wide variety of dialects. Through this observation, it is expected that readers will be able to understand the differences among these dialects, so that misunderstandings in communication between regions with different dialects in Bogor Regency can be avoided.

The benefit of this research is to revitalize local languages that may have largely disappeared from their original areas. In addition, this study aims to broaden knowledge and awareness of the richness of dialects found in Bogor Regency.

## **Methods**

The research method used in this study is a qualitative method. Qualitative research is a research approach that describes events experienced by individuals using words and language (Moleong, 2017:6). According to Sugiyono (2019:15), qualitative research is used to examine natural object conditions, in which the researcher acts as the

key instrument, and the research results emphasize meaning rather than generalization.

The data sources in this study are utterances produced by residents of Tenjolaya District, Cibitung Village, and Cigudeg District, Cintamanik Village, Bogor Regency. Each location involved two informants. The selection of informants was based on several criteria, one of which was that the informants must be native residents of the research area. Mahsun (2014:116) states that data sources in linguistic research can take the form of speech or texts that reflect language use within a community.

The data collection technique employed in this study was interviews. Interviews are defined as a communication process between the interviewer and the informant aimed at obtaining specific information (Moleong, 2017:186). Data analysis was conducted using a descriptive qualitative approach, in which the data are presented descriptively. Qualitative data analysis refers to the activity of organizing data into a systematic order in order to identify themes that correspond to the collected data (Moleong, 2017:280).

## **Result and Discussions**

The language differences observed at the research sites are based on sound correspondences related to phonology and lexicon. To facilitate the analysis of the differences found in Tenjolaya District and Cigudeg District, the data were first grouped. In this study, the letter

(A) refers to Tenjolaya District, while the letter (B) refers to Cigudeg District.

## **1. Brief Overview of Tenjolaya District (A)**

Tenjolaya District is located in Bogor Regency, West Java Province, Indonesia. It lies at an altitude of approximately 616 meters above sea level (masl). This district is part of the foothill area of Mount Salak. Therefore, it is not uncommon for the area to be located on mountain ridges or in valleys. The administrative boundaries of Tenjolaya District are as follows:

*North: directly borders Ciampaea District*

*West: directly borders Pamijahan District*

*South: directly borders Sukabumi*

*East: directly borders Tamansari District*

## **2. Brief Overview of Cigudeg District (B)**

Similar to Tenjolaya District, Cigudeg District is located in the same regency and province, namely Bogor Regency, West Java. Cigudeg District is one of the largest districts in Bogor Regency, with an area of approximately 17,726.24 hectares. It consists of 15 villages and is bordered by:

*North: Parung Panjang*

*South: Sukajaya and Nanggung Districts*

*West: Jasinga District*

*East: Rumpin and Leuwisadeng Districts*

Although both districts are located within the same regency, there are many dialectal differences between them. The following are examples of these differences:

#### **1. “kenyang” (full)**

The word *kenyang* has three variants: *wareg* [warəg], *mangseg* [mangsəg], and *sebeh* [səbəh]. The variants *wareg* and *sebeh* are found in groups (A) and (B), while *mangseg* is found in group (B). These variants are influenced by lexical factors, meaning that different words are used while the meaning remains the same.

#### **2. “kenapa” (why)**

The word *kenapa* has two variants: *kunaon* [kunaon] and *kunaen* [kunaən]. The variant *kunaon* is found in group (A), while *kunaen* is found in group (B). This difference is influenced by phonological factors or sound correspondence, specifically a shift in the final vowel from /o/ to /e/ (-on to -en), while the meaning remains the same.

#### **3. “mendung” (cloudy)**

The word *mendung* has three variants: *mendung* [məndung], *paroek* [paroæk], and *cedem* [cədəm]. The variants *mendung* and *paroek* are found in both groups (A) and (B), while *cedem* is only found in group (A). These differences are lexical in nature, as different vocabulary items are used with the same meaning.

#### **4. “kesel” (annoyed/tired)**

The word *kesel* has three variants: *kesel* [kəsəl], *geleh* [gələh], and *kehel* [kəhəl]. The variants *kesel* and *geleh* are found in group (A), while *kesel*

and kehel are found in group (B). These variants involve phonological changes and lexical differences, as they share the same meaning despite different pronunciations.

#### **5. “durian”**

The word durian has two variants: duren [duren] and kadu [kadu]. The variant kadu is commonly used in group (B), while duren is also used in group (B). These differences are influenced by lexical variation, although both words have the same meaning.

#### **6. “mengalihkan” (to divert/shift)**

The form ngalihken has three variants: ngabebenjoken [ŋabebənjokən], ngalihken [ŋalihkən], and ngabangbatkeun [ŋabaŋbatkən]. The variant ngabebenjoken is found in both groups (A) and (B), ngalihken is found in group (B), and ngabangbatkeun is also found in group (B). These variants are influenced by morphological processes, including reduplication (bebenjok) and affixation (nga- + -ken).

#### **7. “ga kuat” (not strong / cannot endure)**

This expression has two variants: ges tekuat [gəs təkuat] and ges tekawawa [gəs təkawawa]. The variant ges tekuat is found in both groups (A) and (B), while ges tekawawa is found only in group (B). These differences are influenced by lexical variation.

#### **8. “sepertinya” (it seems)**

This expression has two variants: asaan [asaan] and asana [asana]. The variant asaan is found in group (A), while asana is found in group (B). This difference is influenced by phonological processes, specifically

sound assimilation involving the position of /n/ and /a/.

#### **9.“plastik” (plastic)**

The gloss plastik has six variants: plastik [plastik], palastik [palastik], pelastik [pəlastik], antirepot [antirepot], keresek [kərəsək], and kresek [kresək]. The variants palastik, pelastik, and antirepot are found in group (B), while plastik, pelastik, palastik, keresek, kresek, and antirepot are found in group (A). These variants are influenced by phonological changes, particularly vowel substitution such as /e/ and /ə/.

#### **10.“terasi” (shrimp paste)**

The gloss terasi has four variants: terasi [tərasi], tarasi [tarasi], trasi [trasi], and delan [dəlan]. The variants tarasi, terasi, and trasi are found in group (A), while terasi, tarasi, trasi, and delan are found in group (B). These differences are influenced by both phonological and lexical factors.

#### **11.“getar” (vibrate)**

The gloss getar has two variants: ender [ənder] and ener [əner]. The variant ender is found in group (A), while ener is found in group (B). This difference is influenced by phonological sound change.

#### **12.“bengkok” (bent)**

The gloss bengkok has three variants: melengkung [meuleungkung], bengkrung [beungkrung], and penyok [penyok]. The variants melengkung and penyok are found in both groups (A) and (B), while bengkrung is found only in group (B).

### 13. “ngambai” (to wave)

The gloss ngambai has three variants: ngamai [ngamai], ngambai [ngambai], and ngagampér [ngagamper]. The variant ngamai is found in group (B), while ngambai and ngagampér are found in both groups (A) and (B).

Phonological differences within a dialect are generally caused by variations in vowels and consonants, which may result in various linguistic phenomena. One distinctive feature of Sundanese as spoken in Bogor is the addition of the vowel combination eu, formed by combining the letters e and u. The intonation of Sundanese in Bogor tends to sound ngagaeleong (melodic or undulating). Nevertheless, each region has its own linguistic characteristics. These differences constitute unique features of each area, as observed in the Bogor region. There are numerous dialectal variations, ranging from vocabulary to sounds and pronunciation. Ultimately, these variations serve as an added value for the Bogor region, making it well known for its linguistic diversity and richness.

### Conclusion

Based on the results of the study on differences in the use of Sundanese dialects in Tenjolaya District and Cigudeg District, Bogor Regency, it can be concluded that both regions exhibit significant phonological variation despite being located within the same administrative area. These differences are evident in aspects of vowel

and consonant pronunciation, intonation, and word stress. Phonologically, speakers in Tenjolaya District tend to use softer and more elongated vowel sounds, whereas speakers in Cigudeg District show a tendency toward firmer and shorter consonant articulation. This indicates that geographical and socio-cultural factors play an important role in shaping local dialects.

In addition, interview results indicate that dialectal differences also affect the level of mutual understanding among speakers. In several cases, speakers from different areas experience difficulty understanding certain words or sounds due to small yet meaningful phonemic differences. This finding supports Chaer's (2009) theory that language variation and dialects are natural phenomena in speech communities influenced by environmental, cultural, and historical factors.

Thus, this study demonstrates that the Sundanese language in Bogor Regency possesses rich dialectal diversity that deserves preservation. The phonological differences between Tenjolaya District and Cigudeg District provide evidence of the dynamic nature of regional languages, which continue to develop alongside social change. This research is expected to contribute to the development of Sundanese dialectology studies and serve as a reference for further, more in-depth research on phonological variation in other regions of West Java. Furthermore, the findings are expected to raise public awareness of the importance of preserving regional dialects as an integral part of national cultural identity.

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