

LANGUAGE CHOICE ON PAKPAK DAIRI COMMUNITIES IN DAIRI DISTRICT

Nurhayati Sitorus

Program Studi Pendidikan Bahasa Inggris, Universitas HKBP Nommensen

Jln. Baru No. 77 Pasar IV Marindal, Medan

Hayati.storus@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research aims to know language choice on Pakpak Dairi Communities in District. The research method is used in this research is qualitative and quantitative research. The result of this research shows adolescent group used Indonesian language (60,6%) when they communicated with father/mother, brother/sister, and friends with same tribe. Then, adult group used Pakpak Dairi Language (100%) to father/mother, husband/wife, and friends with same tribe. Then, they used Indonesian language (39,4%) for Children. And parent group used Pakpak Dairi Language (93,9%) to father/mother), husband/wife, and friends with same tribe. Then, they used Indonesian language (63,6%) for children. And language attitude for adolescent group was negative attitude, while adult and parent group were positive. In other side, adult and parents group did language choice by doing code switching and code mixing to the participant that could not speak Pakpak Dairi language.

Key Words: Language Choice, Multilingual Society

1. The Background

Indonesia consists of many tribes. One of them is Batak Tribe that consists of five ethnics, namely Batak Toba ethnic, pakpak Dairi ethnic, Simalungun ethnic, Karo ethnic, and Mandailing ethnic. Each ethnic has local language. Batak Toba ethnic uses Batak Toba language, Pakpak Dairi ethnic uses Pakpak Dairi language, Simalungun ethnic uses Simalungun language, Karo ethnic uses Karo language, and Mandailing ethnic uses Mandailing language as their local language.

Language is a tool used human to communicate and interact to the other to deliver information. Through language human can express all ideas and their notions. It is symbol that shows someone identity as the speaker of the language, for example Pakpak Dairi language is a mother language that used by Pakpak Dairi tribe (Pakpak Dairi society). Pakpak Dairi society has five dialects, namely Simsim dialect, Keppas dialect, Pegagan dialect, Kelasén dialect, and Boang dialect (Solin, 1988:107). Pakpak Dairi communities is minority communities in Dairi district.

Dairi district is 191.625 hectares. It is 2,68 % of Sumatera Utara province (7.160.000 hectares). Dairi district is in the North West of North Sumatera Province. The

total of population in Dairi district in 2013 is 276.238 people. The men are 137.918 people and women are 138.320 people. Based on the census in 2010 that the majority society is Batak Toba ethnic (72,50%), Pakpak Dairi ethnic 12,20%, Karo ethnic 9,50%, Melayu ethnic 0,46%, Mandailing ethnic 0,37%, Simalungun ethnic 1,81%, Nias ethnic 0,47%, Minangkabau ethnic 0,39%, Jawa ethnic 1,75%, Cina ethnic 0,14% , Aceh ethnic 0,14% dan etc 0,25% (Source : BPS Dairi district). It can be concluded that Pakpak Dairi communities is minority communities in Dairi district.

Through language event shows that Pakpak Dairi communities in Dairi district is multilingual communities. Multilingual communities are communities that have ability to use more than two languages while communicating with others (Holmes, 2001:19). The languages are used by Pakpak Dairi communities in Dairi district such as Pakpak Dairi language, Batak Toba language, Indonesian, and etc.

The variety of language has potentially to make phenomenon for individual or the group of individual firstly for the minority speaker. The phenomenon takes effect to the using of language. In this case, Pakpak Dairi society must choice the language that they use in communicating with others. The language choice will decide the continuity of Pakpak Dairi language in Dairi district and it can know the language attitude to Pakpak Dairi language.

Based on the background above, the researcher is interesting to do research about "Language Choice on Pakpak Dairi Communities in Dairi District.

2. The Problem of the Research

Based on the background above, the problem of this research is:

1. What are percentages of the language choice on Pakpak Dairi communities to Pakpak Dairi language?
2. What is language attitude of Pakpak Dairi communities to Pakpak Dairi language?

3. Teoretical Framework

3.1 Language Contact

Speech community consists of two, namely closed speech community and opened speech community. Closed speech community is communities do not have relation with others and it can make their language be static so they are still monolingual. Whereas opened speech community is communities have relation with others so they will undergo language contact.

Language contact occurs on the bilingual society or multilingual society. Thomason (2001:1) said that language contact is the using of more than one language. In this case bilingual communities or multilingual communities are claimed so that they can speak two languages as bilingual or multilingual. Communication occurs between different bilingual speaker is language contact.

Language contact inflicts some cases like language choice, language attitude, language maintain, language shift, code switching, and etc. Based on the explanation above, Pakpak Dairi society is multilingualism and minority. In this research, the researcher wants to see language choice and language attitude Pakpak Dairi communities in multilingual and minority communities.

3.2 Multilingual

Language contact affects the change of monolingual communities to be bilingual communities and finally to be multilingual communities. It's caused many factors, such as the development of communication technology, globalization, and education. It's also caused language shift.

Multilingualism is connected to multilingual communities, communities have ability to use more than two languages when they communicate with the other speakers. Multilingual communities develop their ability based on their code to fulfill their need. And it depends on the situation where the languages are used. Multilingual occurs because of language contact (Chaer, 2007:65). Language contact is the using language more than one language at the same place and time (Tomason, 2001:1). Language contact only occurs on opened communities. Opened communities are communities have relation with other communities.

The variety of language is language phenomenon that are so interesting for sociolinguistic researcher. It's caused the researchers want to know more about phenomenons that happen in community, especially the differences are found in language that connect to social factors. It means the researchers want to review the using of language connected to social phenomenon, globalization, and culture. They affect to the use of language, namely language choice, language shift, and language maintainance. They find in multilingual communities. These are phenomeon in multilingual communities. In this case, communities of minority speakers are hoped to maintain and local language. It is threats and challenges for minority speakers.

The variety can occurs because of migration. Migration inflicts phenomenon of language. The migration also affect to the use of language. The migration can cause communities leave their mother language or shove their mother language to the other

languages. Migration does not always lead to decrease but also lead to progress, namely language maintenance. And it depends on language choice and language attitude by the speaker.

3.3 Language Choice

Language choice is someone's attitude to choose language used in a conversation. Ervin (1972) said that language choice depends on some factors, namely participant, condition, and situation, topic, and interaction function. Participant, condition, and situation are domain. Domain is an abstraction of an activity and it is combination of time, place, and relationship role (Holmes, 2001:19-26; Romaine, 2000:44).

Sumarsono (2004:201-203) said that there are three kinds of language choice in sociolinguistic, namely code switching, code mixing, and variation within same language. Code switching is the use of more than one language by communicants in the execution of speech act. Whereas code mixing is pieces of one language are used while speaker is basically using another language. It involves the deliberate mixing of two languages without an associated topic or situation change.

3.4 Language Attitude

Attitude is a way for someone to do something that s/he wants. In accordance with Rokeach (in Halim, 1983: 138) says that attitude is a network of beliefs (cognition) and the value provides to someone to act or react to an object in a certain way.

Attitudes have three components, namely the cognitive component, affective component and the conative component (Lambert, 1967: 91-102). The cognitive component involves knowledge about the surrounding and the idea which is usually the categories used in the process of thinking. Affective component is feelings or emotions that color or animate the knowledge or ideas contained in the cognitive component. Conative component involves sense value of 'good or bad', 'happy' or 'sad' about something. If someone has an attitude of 'positive' about something, the conative component is generally embedded for a long time and is one aspect of the attitude that most lasting. In contrary, if a person has a sense of 'sad' or 'dislike' to something, So he has negative attitude. Conative component concerns the tendency of a person to act or react in a certain way towards a situation.

Garvin and Mathiot (in Suwito, 1983: 91) says language attitude at least contains three main characteristics, namely language loyalty, language pride and awareness of the norm. Language loyalty is community's desire to nurture and maintain the language. In

accordance with Garvin and Mathiot, Weinreich (1974: 99) says that language loyalty was same as nationalism, namely the power of ideas fulfill the mental and the human heart with thoughts and systems and control people for translating consciousness in behavior patterned. It means that loyalty contains mental and emotional values that determine the behavior of language and language loyalty is primarily to encourage someone to try to maintain the language. Language pride is a marker of identity or identity as language users. While awareness of the norm is the use of language in accordance with the rules, polite, kind and true.

In essence, language attitude will determine whether communities will maintain their local language or they will choose their second language to be used by them by and by . And it all depend on communities. If they have a high loyalty to their local language, they will maintain their local language that show their identity as language users.

4. Research Methodology

The approach was used in this study is the sociology approach. The method was used is a qualitative and quantitative research. Respondents in this research consisted of 99 people. The selection of respondents (sample) was conducted with stratified random sampling. The selection of sample was done randomly by the number of individuals as sample are same for each group. Each group consisted of 33 respondents, namely 33 adolescent group (12-25 years), 33 adult group (26-45 years), and 33 parent group (46-65 years).

The method was used to collect data is a survey method, observation method and interview method. And the techniques used in this study was a questionnaire, participation observation, observation of non-participation, basic and advanced techniques. And the data was analyzed using descriptive statistics and Miles and Huberman analysis.

5. Findings and Discussion

5.1 Language Choice

5.1.1 The Attitude of Language Choice at Adolescent Group

From the questionnaire that was distributed to the respondents, the result is the attitude of the language choice at adolescent group in the table below.

Tabel 1. The Attitude Frequency of Language Choice at Adolescent Group

No	Attribute	PDL	BBL	IL	OLC
1	Prefer to do a conversation				
	with father/mother	39,4	-	60,6	-
	with sister/young sister	36,4	-	60,6	3,0
	with brother/young brother	36,4	-	60,6	3,0
	with friends (same tribe)	36,4	-	60,6	3,0

PDL : Pakpak Dairi Language; BBL : Batak Toba Language, IL : Indonesian Language, OLL : Other Local Language

Based on Table 6 above shows that the adolescent group has negative language attitude. This is demonstrated by the language choice used by adolescents in communicating using Indonesian. Based on observations in the field, adolescent group not only use Indonesian in the home domain but outdoors as well. They tend to use Indonesian in communicating than their local language, namely Pakpak Dairi Language. The language choice that they do show a negative direction, namely the language shift.

5.1.2 The Attitude of Language Choice at Adult Group

From the questionnaire that was distributed to the respondents, the result is the attitude of the language choice at adult group in the table below.

Table 2. The Attitude Frequency of Language Choice at Adult Group

No	Attribute	PDL	BBL	IL	BD	*
1	Prefer to do a conversation					
	with father/mother	100	-	-	-	-
	with husband/wife	100	-	-	-	-
	with children	39,4	-	48,5	-	12,1
	with friends (same tribe)	100	-	-	-	-

PDL : Pakpak Dairi Language; BBL : Batak Toba Language, IL : Indonesian Language, OLL : Other Local Language, * : There is no choice because they don't have child

Based on table 2 above shows that the adult group has a positive attitude to their language. This is demonstrated by the language choice used by adult group in communication is Pakpak Dairi Language. They tend to use Pakpak Dairi language to communicate than Indonesian and Batak Toba language. Language choice that they do show a positive direction, namely language maintenance. however, when they communicate with people who different tribe with them or if they are communicating

with friends (same tribe) but there are third person, they tend to do code switching. They will communicate in a language that can be understood by third person. Based on observations in the field they tend to use Batak Toba and Indonesian Language. Almost all samples master the Batak Toba language based on their confessions were obtained from a questionnaire distributed. In addition, adult group also does code-mixing, which include elements of other languages (Indonesian and Batak Toba language) in his talk (conversation) as "de", "alai", and others.

5.1.3 The Attitude of Language Choice at Parent Group

From the questionnaire that was distributed to the respondents, the result is the attitude of the language choice at parent group in the table below.

Tabel 3. The Attitude Frequency of Language Choice at Parent Group

No	Atribut	PDL	BTL	IL	OLL
1	Prefer to do conversation				
	With father/mother	93,9	-	6,1	-
	With husband/wife	93,9	-	6,1	-
	With children	63,6	-	36,4	-
	With friends (same tribe)	93,9	-	6,1	-

PDL : Pakpak Dairi Language; BBL : Batak Toba Language, IL : Indonesian Language, OLL : Other Local Language

Based on Table 3 above shows that parent group has positive attitude. This is demonstrated by the language choice used by parents group in communication is Pakpak Dairi Language. They tend to use Pakpak Dairi language to communicate than Indonesian and Batak Toba language. Language choice that they do show a positive direction, namely language maintenance. But there are samples that use Indonesian language in home domain. Based on the interviews conducted, it is caused his/her parent used to use the Indonesian language when they communicate with their children at home. Based on the observation conducted in the field, parent group will do code switching when they communicate with the different tribe with them either at home domain and outside home domain if the other participant can not use Pakpak Dairi Language. In addition, code mixing is also found when they communicate with children, friends (same tribe) and

others. Code mixing was found in the form of "word" namely "Batak Toba Language" and "Indonesian Language" like "ito", "kakak", and etc.

6. Conclusion

Based on the result of the research shows that adolescent group tends to use Indonesian language while communicating with father/mother, sister/young sister, friends with the same/different tribe in home domain. Next, the language choice is done by adult group and parent group have positive attitude. It is designated they still use Pakpak Dairi language in their life both in home domain and outside home domain. And code switching will occur on adult group and parent group when they communicate with the different tribe. In other side, code mixing and code switching are also found when they communicate with children/ sister/brother, and etc.

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