

LANGUAGE CHOICE PERFORMED BY SASAK TEENAGERS: A CASE STUDY AT MATARAM 2023

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ABSTRACT

Language is a communication tool between individuals to interact with each other. Sasak teenagers these days are more using Bahasa rather than Sasak language. It seems that Sasak language begins to be abandoned by Sasak teenagers in Mataram. Therefore, this study aims to identify and describe the factors that influence Sasak teenagers rarely use Sasak language as their main language and role of parents in influencing teenagers' language choice. The method utilized in this study was ethnography. The techniques used for data collection included observation, participant, formal and informal interviews with participants and video recording of human activities, and collection of relevant sources of information. There are 12 teenagers were interviewed in this study. Based on the field data, there are four factors that influenced Sasak teenagers included environment, media, global identity and family background. In the context of decreasing use of Sasak language, the role of parents is still an important but over time this influence decreased and was changed with greater interaction with the social environment influencing teenagers' language choices.

Keywords: *Language choice, Sasak, Teenagers*

ABSTRAK

Bahasa adalah alat komunikasi individual untuk berinteraksi dengan orang lain. Remaja Sasak saat ini lebih memilih menggunakan Bahasa daripada Bahasa Sasak. Seakan Bahasa Sasak mulai ditinggalkan oleh remaja Sasak di Mataram. Oleh karena itu, penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi dan menjelaskan faktor apa saja yang mempengaruhi remaja Sasak jarang menggunakan Bahasa Sasak sebagai Bahasa utama dan peran orang tua didalam pengaruh pemilihan Bahasa. Metode yang digunakan dalam metode ini adalah etnografi studi. Teknik pengumpulan data yakni observasi, resmi dan tidak resmi wawancara dengan narasumber, perekaman video kegiatan sehari hari dan mengumpulkan data dengan informan yang relevan. Ada 12 remaja yang telah diwawancara pada penelitian ini. Berdasarkan dari data di lapangan. Terdapat 4 faktor yang mempengaruhi remaja Sasak dalam pemilihan Bahasa yang terdiri dari lingkungan, media, identitas global dan latar belakang keluarga. Dalam konteks menurunnya penggunaan Bahasa Sasak, peran orang tua masih penting namun seiring dengan berjalannya waktu pengaruh tersebut semakin berkurang dan berubah dengan banyaknya interaksi dengan lingkungan sosial dalam mempengaruhi pilihan Bahasa remaja.

Keywords: *Pemilihan bahasa, Sasak, Remaja*

A. Introduction

Language is the important part in our live. Language is a communication tool between individuals to interact with each other. Indonesia is an archipelago with Bahasa Indonesia as the national language. As an archipelagic country, Indonesia has many ethnic groups or tribes. A single ethnic group has more than one language and dialect. . As the official language, Indonesian has been formally used in government offices, at school, business, and used as a lingua franca among different ethnic backgrounds. It is also used as the only language spoken in official meetings, seminar, national conference, or in scientific reports. As the national language, Indonesia is the symbol of national identity. Sasak language is primarily spoken by people on the island of Lombok. It is a native language that is spoken by Sasak ethnic group which makes up most of the population of Lombok, West Nusa Tenggara Province. Sasak has different dialects. Mahyuni (2006) states that Sasak has been classified into five dialects ngeno-ngene (Central West coast and Central East to North East coast), meno-mene (around Praya, Central Lombok),

ngeto-ngete (around Suralaga and Sembalun), kuto-kute (around Bayan north part of the island), meriaq-meriku (South Central area around Bonjeruk, Sengkol and Pujut. The Sasak language that is spoken by ethnics that are living around Lombok in facts has many variations. Those language variations have their own patterns, characteristics, and uniqueness in each area of Sasak native speakers (Wilian, 2006; Zain et al., 2022). Language is universal because every language has several linguistic components such as phonological, morphological, syntactic, and lexicon. Besides, language is a unique because it has its own structure and the system is not necessarily the same as the structure and system of other language (Chaer, 2003). Sasak teenagers these days are more using Bahasa rather than Sasak language It seems that Sasak language begins to be abandoned by Sasak teenagers in Mataram. They thought that Sasak language is a little bit difficult to learn, especially Base Alus (Krama). People of Mataram at least able to speak Bahasa and Sasak language for communication process in social environment. Sasak teenagers had to choose Sasak or

Bahasa when they had to communicate with parents, teachers, friends, and neighborhood. Based on the facts and reasons above, the 4 researcher analyzed the speech of Sasak teenagers at Mataram subdistrict of language choice from Sasak language to Bahasa.

B. Research Methods

The method used in this thesis was ethnography. There was no single approved description of ethnography which is fully agreed by the linguists. Ethnography study is the research method that is used in order to learn and understand about social culture, and social groups from the point of view of participants in their daily activities. The techniques used for the data collection in ethnography study include observation, participant observation, formal and informal interviews with participants and video recording of human activities, and collection of relevant sources of information.

This study used observation which are participant observation and non-participants, recording, note taking and questionnaire. The result of the analysis would be interpreted, in order to find out the language choice

used by Sasak teenagers at Mataram in daily conversation. There is also Population and Sampling Technique which explains the total population of teenagers in Mataram and a sample of teenagers who use Sasak Language in their daily conversation. This research will use 20 teenagers between 18 to over 24 as samples. For the Data Collection, this research used Observation, Interview, Note taking and Recording. Method of Data Analysis in this research is the researcher analyzed the data that got from the result of questionnaires and recording which gave to Sasak teenagers in Mataram.

C. Findings and Discussion

The language choice among Sasak teenagers in Mataram is a reflection of their multifaceted identities and the social environments they navigate. In explaining the factors that influence Sasak teenagers to choose Indonesian over Sasak in daily

communication, there are several important points that can be concluded:

- a. Influence of the Surrounding Environment:

Reza :	Sudah kemana? (B) (where have you been?)	using a language that is heard and used more often.
Rosi :	Wahk lalo boye film lek XXI kance Mita (S) (I just watched a movie at XXI along with Mita)	Conversation 1: Participants : Reza and Rosi Topic : Movie Setting : Mall Duration : about 7 minutes. The interaction between Reza and Rosi highlights the dynamic nature of language choice among Sasak teenagers in Mataram. In this conversation, we observe a mix of two Sasak and Bahasa Indonesia, 26 reflecting a nuanced negotiation of identity, social context, and cultural pride. The choice to switch between languages are influenced by various factors including setting, audience, and the perceived formality of the occasion.
Reza :	Mana dia sekarang? (B) (where is she now?)	
Rosi :	Jengke lalo belanja kance berayen, kamu ape gawekm lek te? (S) (she is buying some stuff with her boyfriend, what are you doing here?)	
Reza :	Beliin bapak saya roti barusan (B) (I have bought some bread for my father)	
Rosi :	Ketumbenm ndek ngeraos kadu base Sasak(S) (it so often to see you didn't speak Sasak)	
Reza :	Harus paham dong kamu, kita lagi di tempat fancy ini hehe(B) (you have to understand that we are in fancy place hehe)	
Rosi :	Pade kamu kance mita, ndekm mele kadu base Sasak mun lek luah (S) (neither you and Mita are same, didn't want to use Sasak when we are outside hometown)	

The environment where Sasak teenagers interact regularly, such as at school or in social circles, greatly influences language choices. Indonesian is often used more 47 dominantly in more public settings, making teenagers tend to be more comfortable

- b. Media:
- Technological developments and social media access have given Indonesian language greater popularity. Ease of access to information and

more abundant content in
 Indonesian makes teenagers

Setting : Group Chat

Duration : -

Satria : Minta tolong bawain dompet
 saya sekali (B)
 (Can you help me? Please
 bring it my wallet to me)

Teguh : Mbe jak taokm tie Satria? (S)
 (Where are you now Satria?)

Satria : Ditempat makan kemarin
 yang kita datengin itu (B)
 (I am at restaurant that we
 went yesterday)

Teguh : Iya, tunggu saja, lagi 6 menit
 nyampe (S)
 (Wait for me, I'll be there in 6
 minutes)

Wildan : Gak dia enak apa makanan
 di tempat kamu makan itu,
 senang sekali kamu kesana
 (B)
 (It doesn't taste delicious the
 food that you are eating, I
 saw you're so happy to that
 place)

Satria : Beda beda elaq sihnya(S)
 (Different tongue different
 tasted)

Wildan : Hanya nasi gorengnya saja
 yang enak dan paling murah
 di restoran itu (B)
 (Only fried rice the most
 tasted good and the
 cheapest at that restauratnt.)

Satria : Mulakm elak lokal Dan (S)
 (Your tongue just like
 ordinary people)

more familiar with the
 language.

Conversation 2:

Participants : Teguh, Satria, and
 Wildan

Topic : Food

The extract from a group chat
 involving Teguh, Satria, and Wildan
 provides a vivid example of language
 choice among Sasak teenagers in a
 digital context. Here, we see a
 seamless blend of Sasak and Bahasa
 Indonesia, reflecting their bilingual
 proficiency and the nuanced factors
 that drive their language preferences
 in informal, virtual settings.

c. Global Identity:

In an increasingly globally
 connected world, Indonesian
 offers greater access to global
 information, trends and
 popular culture. Its connection
 to the global context
 encourages Sasak teenagers
 to prefer Indonesian.

Conversation 3:

Participants : Rendi, Mira, Zahwa,
 and Zahwa's mother

Topic : Politics

Setting : Zahwa's house

Duration : about 11 minutes.

Zahwa	Udah kalian liat berita? Tentang nomor urut capres itu? (B) (have you read the news? Talked about president candidates number's?)
Mira	Menarik, saya lebih pilih pasangan yang berpengalaman di pemerintahan (interested, I prefer to vote the candidate who has more experienced)
Rendi	Siapa jadinya kamu bakal pilih Mir? (B) (Who will you vote then?)
Mira	Bisa dicek dong mana yg bagus, masak kamu ga paham (you can check who's the best, won't you understand?)
Zahwa's mom	Zahwa's mother showed up from her room
	Ndak ribut lalok kanak, adikn zahwa jengke tedem (S) (Don't make noise, Zahwa's sister is sleeping.)
Mira	Nggih nak kake(S) (yes ma'am)

In the interaction at Zahwa's house, we observe another dimension of language choice among Sasak teenagers. This setting, involving political discussion and a brief interaction with Zahwa's mother, reveals how language preferences shift in response to formality and authority, reflecting a deep-seated cultural etiquette.

d. Family background:

The younger generation who are increasingly moving away from their Sasak cultural roots experience a lack of exposure and in-depth understanding of Sasak language and culture. These limitations influence teenagers' decisions to prefer Indonesian in daily communication.

Based on the results of interviews and information provided, there are several factors that influence Sasak teenagers in choosing Indonesian compared to Sasak in their daily communication. These factors include technological developments and access to social media, surrounding environment, global identity, and family background factors. Technology and social media are helping the popularity of Indonesian, the surrounding environment is more likely to use Indonesian, global identity is driving preference for Indonesian because of its connection to the global context, as well as the influence of the younger generation who are increasingly moving away from Sasak cultural roots.

Apart from that, the role of parents in influencing language choice has also changed over time. This indicates that although parents still play a role in influencing language choice, the intensity of their influence has decreased from before. In other words, the role of parents is still relevant in influencing teenagers' language choices, but this influence decreases with greater interaction with the social environment. This indicates that the surrounding environment, peers, and common language use around them also play a more dominant role in influencing teenagers' language choices today.

D. Conclusion

Through a series of factors that influence language choices by Sasak teenagers in Mataram, it can be concluded that the environment, technology, global identity and hereditary factors have a significant role in the dynamics of their language choices. Indonesian dominates in environments outside Sasak daily life, particularly influenced by its wider use in social media and school settings. Global identity factors also encourage

preferences for Indonesian because of its connection to the global context.

The role of parents, while still relevant, is decreasing in its influence on adolescents' language choices with greater interaction with the social environment. Nevertheless, this role remains important in maintaining and strengthening cultural identity through the maintenance of native languages.

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