

LANGUAGE VARIATION IN THE FAMILY OF THE COMMUNITY IN THE BORDER OF TIMOR LESTE AND MALAKA REGENCY

Maria Magdalena Namok Nahak
Fakultas Ilmu Pendidikan
Universitas Timor
mia.unimor@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

This paper describes the language varieties in Malaka Regency, a district directly adjacent to the territory of the country of Timor Leste. As a border region of two countries, the social community in this region consist of various tribes and languages that are acculturated. In this area, Tetun Language is the most dominant language, beside Bunak and Dawan. Tetun language itself consist of some dialects, such as Tetun Dili/Suai dialect, Foho dialect and fehan dialect. In order to know the language condition in this area, a research was done to described language repertoire specially in family domain. This study uses observations and interviews using the techniques involved free refer proficient The second data conducted by interview and documentation. Both methods are used tool of record and record field. The data is validated with tringulasi techniques. The repertoire of language in society-Timor Leste border region of Malaka in ranah family in the district of Malaka can be either: (1) a wide repertoire of Indonesian non-formal, (2) the repertoire Indonesian formal diversity, (3) the repertoire was overcome local language Tetum Suai and (4) repertoire and Tetum Tetum Foho Fehan in the district of Malacca. Language variations in border communities Timles-Malaka in the realm of the family in the district of Malaka can be either: (1) code switching and (2) code-mixing. Form over the code include: interpreting and code switching over speech level. Rather than the language code in the form consists of: (1) BI into BT-D, (2) BI into BT-DF, (3) BT-DFO into BI, (4) BT-DS into BI, (5) BT DM into the BT-DS, (6) BT-DS into BT-DM.

Keywords: language variations, code switching, code-mixing

1. Introduction

Human being is a social creature that each activity needs an individual role to live in a peaceful and well being society. To achieve the life of a community, people need a language to community, since the important thing in daily life is through communication in order to achieve the goal, so there will be no misunderstanding among people who communicate. According to Keraf (1997: 3) stated that language has a particular function which is used based on someone's need, such as a means to communicate, as a means to intergrate and to adapt in the surrounding or particular situation, and as a means of social control. Meanwhile, Kridalaksana (2007:1) stated that language is a system of sound which is used by the community to cooperate, interact, and identify themselves. Language is used for all sorts of life. The conclusion is that language is a fundamental aspect of human life. (Recing and Pateda in Slinda and Leni Safyahya, 1993:5) that the characteristic of a language is mutual understanding, individual, cooperative, and as a means of communication. Tetun is a regional language which is still presered by the speakers of Malaka community and Timor Leste since Tetun is a regional language inherited from the anchestors which has high social values. The regional language in Timor Leste (Suai) and Malaka regency is highly respected, as a symbol to identity and as a means of communication, in traditional ceremony, formal events or in daily interaction. The status of Tetun language now plays an important role to support regional culture and as a language to signal the identity of the of speakers along the border of Timor Leste and Malaka regency.

The use of Tetun language covers a very wide area so the language has a variety of variations in terms of dialect. Although there is a variation of Tetun language but it exists in the same speech of the speakers in Belu and Malaka regencies as well as along the border of Timor Leste. It happens since Tetun language refer to the similar language. The difference of the dialect of Tetun language is an interesting topic to be further described as a language variation of the community along the border of Timor Leste and West Timor.

Tommi Yuniawan (2006:199) stated that the situation of languages in the Indonesian community is marked by the use of two languages, such as regional language or as a mother tongue (first language) and Indonesian, or other foreign languages. This phenomenon is taking place in the community of Malaka regency. Based on the geographical factor, there are two languages being used for daily communication, namely Tetun Dili-Suai and Tetun Fehan beside Indonesian.

This research is relevant to the regional language inventory and as a basis of linguistic theory in general. The writer's knowledge of of the previous research on the description of Tetun is less than expected. Little research has been conducted by linguistic experts, that's why the writer is interested in conducting a research entitled "Language variation in family of the community in the border of Timor Leste and Malaka Regency"

An Antrophologist Ferdinand de Saussure (in Nugroho, 2007:73), introduced the theory of *langue* and *parole*. According to Ferdinand that every member of a society has the same *langue*, if people view language from *langue* aspect, it will be a social uniform as belonging to all speakers. Every member of a language community has the same attitude towards his/her language, on the other hand, if we view language from *parole* aspect that the use of the language in the real situation will show that language has a personal characteristic.

The efforts of maintaining and and preserving a language and its dialect is a sign of the attention of its speech community towards its culture. One of the real efforts is by conducting a research on regional language, since every language of a community has its own

culture. Regional language is a part of national language. The effort of preserving a language through research so the language will not be extinct and it will be learnt by the next generation. An effort can be done such as by conducting this research which is considered as a practical action to preserving Tetun language.

The problem of this research is related to the language variation which is being used by the community in the border of Timor Leste and Malaka regency. The aim of this research is to describe the language variation in the border of Timor Leste and Malaka regency in family life. Theoretically, this research is useful to develop the theory of sociolinguistics and to present the model of language variation in a multilingual community from sociolinguistic perspective as an inspiration for further description in order to maintain and develop the language nationally or locally. This research is related to sociolinguistics.

Sociolinguistics analyses the relationship between language and the community from two different perspectives which can be studied separately, namely formal structure of the language by linguistics and then the structure of the community by sociology. (Wardhaugh 1966:4, Holmes,1972:1, Hudson,1996:2). Sociolinguistics was introduced in 1952 (Ditmar, 1976:27) stated that there should be an analysis about the relationship between speech behaviour and the social status.

The first sociolinguistic conference was held in California University, Los Angeles, in 1964, formulated the dimensions of a sociolinguistic research, namely: (1) identity of social speaker, (2) identity of the speaker, (3) social linguistic, (4) diachronic and synchronic analyses of social dialect, and (5) the practical application of sociolinguistic research. (Ditmar,1976:128).

Kartomiharjo (1988: 4) stated that sociolinguistics describes the relationship between the speaker and the hearer, the language varieties, its usage based on the determined factors, such as linguistic factor or other factors, and the forms of the existing language to be maintained in the community. This assumption has a meaning that sociolinguistics covers a wide range of analysis not only the formal aspect of a language and language variation, but also about the use of the language in the speech community. The use of the language has a relationship with other factors such as linguistic and nonlinguistic, for example, sociocultural aspect. In fact, the phenomenon of language choice is related to language situation and other varieties of the language in communication. So, sociolinguistics will look at the phenomenon of language choice as a social fact, a system of symbol, a system of cultural behaviour, and pragmatics.

2. The Method of Research

2.1 Research Approach

This research applies sociological, anthropological, and psychological approaches of the speaker in a community. (Fasold, 1984: 192). The use of those three approaches would solve the problem of this research in the sociological, anthropological, and psychological analyses as an independent discipline, but also for sociolinguistic analysis (Wardhaugh,1984:12, Hodson,1996:1).

2.2 Source of Data

The source of the data was obtained from the speech community in the border area of Suai and Metamauk near Timor Leste and Malaka regency who involve in the speech event in the family. The location of the research was chosen on the basis on the linguistic situation in the areas between Tetun Dili – Tetun Fehan in Central Malaka subdistrict. Two locations were chosen for observation, namely, (1) Umakatahan village and Kamanasa to represent the town with an assumption that language being used there was heterogeneous one, and (2) Metamauk village in the remote village with an assumption that it was more homogeneous. This research was conducted in those two areas in order to obtain complete data as expected.

2.3 Method of Research

This research used primary and secondary data. Primary data of this research was in form of the oral speech in different speech act in the family of the community in Timor Leste -Malaka. While the second data was in form of information or any other additional information about sociocultural aspect in the community.

The first data was collected by using observation technique and interview by using free listening technique of those who involved in the speech (Sudaryanto, 1993:133-135). The second data was obtained by using recording and field note techniques. The data was validated by using triangulation technique.

2.4 Method of Data Analysis

The research data was analyzed by using two procedures, namely (1) to analyse the data during the process of data collection, and (2) to analyse the data after the research. (Miles and Huberman, 1984: 21-25; Muhadjir, 1996: 105). The first procedure was done by using the following steps: (1) transcribe the recorded data, (2) classify the data based on recording and field note, (3) take conclusion.

3 Result of the Research and Discussion

3.1 Language variation of the community of Malaka and Timor Leste in the family.

Code switching of the community in the border of Timor Leste and Malaka.

3.1.1 Code switching from Indonesian (BI) to Tetun Dili (BTD)

Language variation is in form of code switching that take places in the speech event in the family of the community in the border of Timor Leste-Malaka can be categorized as code switching.

Data 1

(01) CONTEXTS : AHMAD VISITED THE HOUSE OF VILLAGE HEADMAN

P-1 : Selamat sore Pak!

Good Afternoon

P-2 : Oh.. nusa, perlu sa ida?

Oh... bagaimana, ada apa!

Oh... what's the matter?

P-1 : Ama Kades Iha ga? Hau atu kasoru

Pak Kadesnya ada? Saya mau bertemu!

Is village headman available? I want to see him

P-2 : Mai... mai tama tur!

Mari masuk, duduklah

Come in, sit down!

In the conversation (07), the repertoire P-1 was in Indonesian in the sentence '*Selamat sore Pak! Ada apa?* Later on, P-1 changed the repertoire as BI-TD '*Ama desa iha ga?*' '*Hau atu kasoru ama kades?*' Pak kadesnya ada? Saya mau bertemu! From the conversation it is clear that their social status was the same and they had a close relationship, so they communicated by using BI-TD. This shows that there was an intimate relationship. The social distance could cause the change of one language to another.

3.1.2 Code switching from Indonesian (BI) into Tetun Dili – Foho dialect.

This language variation was taking place in the speech event in the family of the community in the border of Timor Leste-Suai Malaka regency. This language variation could be the code switching of BTD-DFo.

Data 2

(02) CONTEXT : HUSBAND ASKED WIFE TO GO AND WATCH FOOTBALL MATCH.

P-1 : Mau ikut nonton bola ko?

Do you want to watch football match?

P-2 : Ho... hau tuir no' ferik

- Ikut bersama bapak
Yes, I will join you
P-1 : *tuir no ga lae, ferik?*
Ikut atau tidak?
Do you want to join or not?

The above speech act as a conversation between P-1 (husband) and P-2 (wife). The repertoire P-1 was at first in Indonesian BI as non formal variety in the sentence '*Mau ikut nonton bola nggak?*' But the speech in P-2 was changed by using BTD- DfO '*ho... hau tuir no ferik*' Ikut bersama bapak! Later on, P-1 changed the repertoire to be BTD-DfO '*tuir no ka lae, ferik?*' Ikut atau tidak? The speech took place especially in the mixed family of Timles (Suai)- Malaka Fehan.

3.1.3 Code Switching Tetun Dili (BTD-Dfo) into Indonesian (BI)

Language variation refers to code switching of the speech act in the family of the community in the border of Timor Leste and Malaka regency can be from BTD into BI.

Data 3

(03) CONTEXT: A MOTHER IS PREPARING THINGS TO MAKE FRIED BANANAS

- P-1 : *Hau atu kahur trigu*
Saya mau campur tepung terigu
I want to mix flour
P-2 : *Modi malo sa ida*
Mau untuk apa?
What for?
P-1 : *Untuk bahan campuran buat pisang goreng*
For making fried bananas

The above conversation shows that there is a repertoire of BTD-DfO into BI by P-1 (mother). Firstly, P-1 used BTD-DfO '*Hau atu kahur terigu*' 'saya mau campur tepung terigu' and it was answered by P-2 by using Bd-Ds as '*modi malo sa ida, ma?*' 'Mau untuk apa?', later, P-1 changed the speech by using BI. This shows that P-1 (ibu) had limitation to use BTD-DfO, so the language code was changed from BTD-DfO into BI.

3.1.4 Code switching in Tetun Dili, Suai dialect (BTD-Ds) into Indonesian (BI)

The code switching in the speech act in the family of community in the border of TIMLES- Suai Central Malaka could be the code switching from BTDF into BI.

(4) CONTEXT: A FATHER WANTS TO REGISTER HIS SON TO WORK IN KUPANG

- P-1 : *Hau at lori hau nia oan ba katama nia naran*
Saya mau mendaftarkan anak
I want to register my son
P-2 : *mata naran ba sa...*
Mendaftar apa....
What registration?
P-1 : *karian iha Kupan*
To work in Kupang
P-2 : *Sudah ada kartu kuningnya dan KTP?*
Do you have Yellow card of ID card?

The speech in the conversation (04) shows that there was a code switching of BTDS into BI by P-1 (father) and P-2 (son). At first, P-1 used BTDS '*hau at lori hau nia oan at ba katama nia naran*' Saya ini mau mendaftarkan anak.... and it was answered by P-2 by using

BTDF as 'matama ba sa' ...Mendaftar apa.....' Then, P-1 changed the speech by using BI 'kerja di malaka'. It was answered by P-2 by using BI as 'Sudah punya kartu kuningnya dan KTP? This shows that P-1 has a limitation in using BI, so changed the speech code by using BT-DS into BI.

3.1.5 The code switching of Tetun language of Malaka region (BT-DM) into Tetun language Suai region (BT-DS).

The form of code switching in the speech act in the family of community in the border of Tetun Suai in Malaka could be code switching from BT-DS into BT-DM. This can be seen in the following speech act:

(05) CONTEXT: GORIS ASKED HIS MOTHER

P-1 : Gaspar kaben tian ka sei....

Gaspar sudah nikah atau belum?

Has Gaspar got married or not?

P-2 : Oh... Gaspar maak be eskolah iha Paket C ne ga?

Oh... Gaspar, yang sekolah di Paket C

Oh... Gaspar, who was taking C Learning Unit..

P-1 : Eskolah iha Paket C atau di SMA

Sekolah di paket C atau di SMA

Studying in C Learning Unit or High School

In the conversation (05) was a code switching from BT-DM to BT-DS. At first, the speech was uttered by P-1 (Gaspar) by using BT-DS that 'Gaspar kaben tian ga sei... 'Gaspar sudah nikah apa belum', but the speech of P-2 using BT-DM in the sentence 'Oh... Gaspar maak be eskolah iha paket C ne ga..... Oh... Gaspar, yang sekolah di Paket C..... Then, manek used BT-DM.

3.1.6 The code switching of Tetun Suai region (BT-DS) into Tetun language Malaka region

The form of code switching in the speech act in family of the community in the border of TIMLES(Suai) - in Malaka in the code switching of BT-DS into BT-DM.

(06) CONTEXT: HUSBAND WAS TALKING TO HIS WIFE

P-1 : Ina, nee iha surat

Ibu, ini ada surat

P-2 : Surat sa ida, apa?

Surat apa, pak?

P-1 : Surat nosi ama desa

Surat dari pak Kades!

In the conersation (06) at the beginning the speech was uttered by P-1 (husband) BT-DS in the sentence 'Ina, nee iha surat! 'Ibu, ini ada surat', then the speech used by P-2 (wife) BT-Ds in the sentence 'Surat sa ida, apa?' 'Surat apa itu, Pak?. Then P-1 (husband) changed the speech BT-DM 'Surat nosi ama desa' 'Surat dari pak Desa'

3.2 Code mixing of the community in the border of TIMLES-MALAKA in the family

3.2.1 Code mixing of Tetun language TIMLES Suai region (BT-DS) into Indonesian (BI)

Language variation in terms of code mixing took place in the speech event in family of the community in the border of Timles Suai – Malaka Metamauk as code mixing of BT-DS into BI.

(07) CONTEXT: CONVERSATION BETWEEN FATHER AND SON

P-1 : Pertimbangan tama husu, no be persiapan acara seluk sia, diundur sajalah!

Pertimbangan waktu peminangan, dengan mempersiapkan yang lainnya, diundur saja.

Think about the time for engagement, prepare other things, postpone it!

- P-2 : Pokoknya atur saja.... hau tuir dei
Pokoknya disiapkan... bagaimana baiknya sajalah!
So, prepare it, do your best!

- P-1 : Baiklah kalo begitu... tahun depan saja!
If so, next year would be better!

The above speech act is a code mixing of BT-DS into BI. This can be seen from the conversation between P-1 (father) and P-2 (son) that is shown by the words in BT-DS, that is 'pertimbangan waktu tama husu, no be persiapan acara seluk sia, diundur sajalah! Besides, 'Baiklah kalau begitu'...*tinan oin deit*; 'Ya sudah kalo begitu... 'Tahun depan sajalah' after the sentence 'kalau begitu'. This shows that there is a code mixing or inserting from BT-DS into BI.

3.2.2 Code mixing of Tetun language Malaka region (BTDM) in Indonesian (BI)

Language variation in terms of code mixing occurred in the speech event in the family in the community of the border region of Tetun Foho Dialect as code mixing of BT-DM into BI.

(08) CONTEXT: A MOTHER VISITS HER NEIGHBOR

- P-1 : Selamat pagi, no sa ida, kog pagi pagi sudah disini?
Selamat pagi, ada apa, kog sudah sampai disini?
Good morning, What? You come here!
- P-2 : Oh... iya..., mama nalo tubi di rumah?
Oh... ya..., Ibu ada buat kuwe di rumah?
Oh... yes, mother is making cake at home?
- P-1 : Aduh... hari ini ibu iha pertemuan
Aduh... hari ini ibunya ada pertemuan
Uhh,,, today there is a meeting
- P-2 : Ya sudah, nu nia besok saja.
Ya, sudah, kalau tidak ada besok saja
Ok, If she is not here, then tomorrow!

In the above conversation, the speech used by P-1 (son) using a repertoire of BI inserting the words of BTDM, 'no sa ida'... 'ada apa' between BI 'selamat pagi' dan 'kog sudah disini?', then P-2 (guest) replied by using the repertoire of BI 'mama nalo' 'mama iha' between BI 'aduh... hari ini' Aduh... hari ini', and then P-2 replied again by using 'Ya sudah', nu nia besok saja'

3.2.3 Code mixing in Tetun Malaka (BT-DM) in Tetun Dili Suai (BT-DS).

Language variation can be a code mixing in the speech event in the family of the community in the border of Timles-Suai in Malaka regency can be a code mixing of BT-DM in BT-DS.

(09) CONTEXT: A GRANDCHILD WAS TALKING TO HER GRANDMOTHER IN GUEST ROOM

- P-1 : Ne'e ... faru a atu o tau iha ne'e
Ini... bajunya yang akan dipakai ada disini
Here, where is the dress you will wear
- P-2 : Em,,, kalo iha meda nia se niak?
Masa sih,,, kalau yang di meja bajunya siapa?
Oh... what about on the table? Whose?
- P-1 : emm, mak neit, nuu hauk faru a!
Oh... yang itu, sepertinya milik saya

Oh... That one, it is mine

In the conversation (09) using a code mixing or inserting the words from BT-DM that can be seen as 'diambil' between BT-DS.

Ne'e ... faru a...'bajunya' dan '*iha ne'e*', 'ada disini'. Besides, in another utterance '*kalu mak iha meda ne'it*', 'kalau yang dimeja itu', between the words of BT-DM, '*em,, masa sih*, and '*faru se niak*', 'bajunya siapa? And in the utterance, '*nuu hauk faru a*', 'sepertinya milik saya' after '*oh... hauk faru a*', 'Oh... yang itu'.

3.2.4 Code mixing in Tetun Suai Malaka region (BT-DS) in Tetun Fehan Malaka (BT-FM).

Language variation can be a code mixing in the speech event in the family of the community in the border of Tetun Suai in Malaka can be a code mixing of DT-DS into BT-FM.

(10) CONTEXT: CONERSATION BETWEEN THE ELDER BROTHER AND HIS YOUNGER BROTHER ABOUT ANOTHER BROTHER WHO WORKS.

P-1 : Ama desa Suai nia oan diak ga lae, hau la katene!

Anaknya pak Kades Suai, bagaimana khabarnya? Saya kok tidak tahu

The son of Suai village headman, how are you? I don't know

P-2 : Oh... hori seik mak mai iha ne'e ... nia no laen tian!

Oh... yang kemarin datang disini... itu sih sudah bersuami.

Oh... Who came here yesterday... She has got married

P-1 : Nusa hau be la no naran na.

Mengapa saya tidak ada nama nya.

Why isn't there my name

In conversation (10) using a code mixing or inserting the words of BT-DS that can be seen in the utterance '*diak ga lae*' 'bagaimana khabarnya' between BT-DS in '*ama desa nia oan*' anaknya pak Kades and '*hau la katene*' 'saya kok tidak tahu'. Besides, '*nia no laen tian*' 'itu sih sudah bersuami' after the sentence in BT-DS, '*oh... hori seik mak mai iha nee*' ... oh... yang kemarin datang disini...!

4. Conclusion and Suggestion

4.1 Conclusion

The repertoire of the community in the border of TIMLES-Malaka in family of Malaka regency can be: (1) repertoire of nonformal Indonesian, (2) repertoire of formal Indonesian, (3) repertoire of Tetun Dili language, (4) repertoire of Tetun Foho and Tetun Fehan in Malaka region.

Language variation in the community of the border of Timles-Malaka in the family of Malaka region can be: (1) code switching, (2) code mixing. The form of code switching includes: code witching of language and the speech level. Code switching can be in language form: (1) BI in BT-D, (2) BI in BTDF, (3) BT-DFo into BI, (4) BT-DS into BI, (5) BT-DM into BT-DS, (6) BT-DS into BT-DM.

4.2 Suggestion

The result of this research can be a basis framework in language education, whether regional language or Indonesian, and this will give a contribution to the theoretical development and also the sociolinguistic methodology.

This topic of research can be a model to analyse the phenomenon of linguistic situation in the context of sociocultural of bilingual community or other mulilingual contexts.

Interdisciplinary collaboration which is related to linguistic situation of bilingual or multilingual community will provide a systematic description. So, this topic needs further research and analysis in terms of language repertoire in the community of Malaka region from social class perspective between the border of Timor Leste and Malaka regency.

REFERENCES

- A. Rohaedi. 1979. *Dialektologi Sebuah Pengantar*. Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan Pengembangan Bahasa.
- D. Rorbert. 1976. *Sociolinguistics: Goals, Approaches, and Problems*. London: Bastford.
- Fasold, Ralph. 1984. *The Sociolinguistics of Society*. Oxford: Basil Blackwell
- Holmes, Janet. 1992. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistics*. New York: Longman.
- Hudson, R.A. 1996. *Sociolinguistics*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.
- Kartomihardjo, Soeseno. 1988. *Bahasa Cermin Kehidupan Masyarakat*. Jakarta: Depdikbud.
- Miles, Matthew B dan A. Michael Huberman. 1988. *Qualitative Data Analysis*.
Terjemahan Tjetjep Rohendi R. 1992. *Analisis Data Kualitatif*. Jakarta: UI.
- Muhadjir, Noeng. 1996. *Metodologi Penelitian Kualitatif*. (Edisi HI). Yogyakarta: Rakesarasin.
- Sudaryanto. 1993. *Metode dan Aneka Teknik Analisis Bahasa: Pengantar Penelitian Wahana Kebudayaan secara Linguistik*. Yogyakarta: Duta Wacana University.
- Wardhaugh, Ronald. 1986. *An Introduction to Sociolinguistic*. Oxford: Blackwell.

BIODATA

| Complete Name | Institution | Education | Research Interests |
|--------------------------------|------------------|---|--|
| 1. Maria Magdalena Namok Nahak | Timor University | Program Doctorate of Linguistics, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University | Ekolinguistik Teks Sociolinguistik Semantik Leksikografi |