

AN ANALYSIS OF PHONOLOGY IN MINANGKABAU LANGUAGE

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Abstract: *This study attempted to describe an analysis of phonology in Minangkabau Language. The purpose of the study was to describe the phonology in Minangkabau Language, types and distribution of diphthong and consonants and phonology form on the oral text of speakers in Padang and other regions such as Padang Panjang, Bukit Tinggi, and Sawah Lunto. The method of this study was library research by selecting and collecting some materials which were relevant to the subject matter. The data source of this study was oral text from speakers who lived in Padang and other places such as Padang Panjang, Bukit Tinggi and Sawah Lunto.*

Keywords: *Phonology, Minangkabau Language*

Abstrak: *Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk menggambarkan analisis fonologi dalam Bahasa Minangkabau. Tujuan dari penelitian ini adalah untuk menggambarkan fonologi dalam Bahasa Minangkabau, tipe dari diphthong dan consonan dan proses fonologi berdasarkan teks lisan dari penutur di Padang dan daerah lain seperti Padang Panjang, Bukit Tinggi, dan Sawah Lunto. Metode penelitian ini adalah penelitian perpustakaan dengan memilih dan mengumpulkan beberapa bahan yang relevan dengan materi. Sumber data dari penelitian ini adalah teks lisan dari penutur yang tinggal di Padang dan tempat-tempat lain seperti Padang Panjang, Bukit Tinggi dan Sawah Lunto.*

Kata Kunci : *Fonologi, bahasa Minangkabau*

INTRODUCTION

There are many different languages in the world. The languages are very important for human beings. As we know that there are a lot of many different native speaking of languages. Different language will differentiate in speaking. Language plays a great role in our life. Human beings cannot live without the presence of language. Language is the most fundamental means of human beings to communicate because it plays a very important role in human life and also in internal forum or national relationship. As Wallwork, J.F (1969:641) says that language cannot be part of human and it is a systemic means of communicating ideas or feeling by the use of conventionalized signs, sounds, gestures, or marks having understood meaning.

The scientific study of language is called Linguistics. Language itself can be defined as the expressions of ideas by means of speech sounds combined into words. If someone wants to convey his feeling, intention, or opinion to other person, he. She uses the language. The language can be used in the form of sound or voice, symbols or written form or can be gesture or signals.

Language means a system of communication and interaction. It has a function as glue in making a unity among families, societies, and nation in social activities. The word "communication" has same meaning that is understanding, listening, speaking and action responding. Minangkabau language used by the native speaking differently by the

Minangkabau people according to the place they live. For example, it will be used differently by people who live around the beach (outland) and on the high land (in-land). The means of the regency that included into the area of in-land are : Luhak Tanah Datar (Flat land), Luhak Agam, and Luhak Lima Puluh Kota (fifty cities Luhak). And out-land spreads to the west covers Muko-muko in province of Bengkulu to the South until Tapak Tuan in province of Aceh to the North. To the East, this area covers Bangkinang and Indragiri.

Minangkabau Language is divided into two, in-land and out-land. The in-land is the first Minangkabau, divided into three areas of custom (called Luhak). Luhak Tanah Datar (flat land), Luhak Agam, and Luhak Lima Puluh Kota (fifty cities Luhak). The out-land spreads to the west covers Muko-Muko in Province of Bengkulu to the South until Tapak Tuan in Province of Aceh to the North. To the East, this area covers Bangkinang and Indragiri.

Minangkabau Language is developed as such it appears several dialects in this language. The dialects are only variation in phonology, morphology, and words, they are not different in syntax. Minangkabau Language is a language of many tribes in Indonesia which needs to be developed, especially due to the role of Indonesia in Tourism Development, Indonesia tries to conserve and defend the original of the traditions of the tribes, as one matter of national culture.

In these days, it has been formed many dialects are general dialects of raw Minangkabau Language. Thus general dialect is usually used in the conversation where the persons in the conversation derives from several regions. This general language is more general often used in Padang and in another areas where the activities are often hold on such as in educational instances and industry areas. There are many dialects in Minangkabau Language. The dialects are variations in Minangkabau Language, so this study discussed about phonology in Minangkabau Language.

The main role of the study was to describe the phonology in Minangkabau Language such as phonology form, types and distribution of diphthong and consonants. Therefore, the formulation of the problem of this study was the following:

1. How is the phonology in Minangkabau Language?
2. What types and distribution of diphthong and consonants

LITERATURE REVIEW

Linguistics

Wallwork, J.F. (1969:665) says, "*Linguistics is the science of language, including the sounds, words, and grammar rules.*" In Indonesian, linguistics means "ilmu bahasa". The word of linguistics¹ is derived from Greeks 'lingua'. In other languages, such as Italian, the word of linguistics is written 'lingua', lingual in Spain, langue in French, and the expert of linguistics is called linguist in English and in Indonesian called linguist.

Linguistics can be meant as "study of language". Linguistics is a study of language components throughout. These components cannot be separated from each other but they are connected to each other closely. However the components are studied in linguistics

partly. For example, they are differentiated as phonetic, phonemic, phonology, morphology, syntax and semantics.

Linguists also try to learn what the language is and how it works. Linguists also try to find out the differences, advancement, alternation and anything which concerns with the language. Linguistic is also called knowledge, the same as other knowledge, such as physics, chemistry or biology. As a science study of language, linguistics is empirical, not speculative or intuitive.

Linguistics operation is based on the data which may be diversified and obtained from the observation and experiment, the object can be monitored by human's senses; speech can be heard, gesture can be seen and writing can be read. Linguistics is also explicit, which means virtual, clear, there is no double meaning, and the provision is arranged and formulated throughout and not contradiction.

Phonological Description in General

Nikolai Trubetzkoy in *Grundzüge der Phonologie* (1939) defines phonology as "the study of sound pertaining to the system of language," as opposed to phonetics, which is "the study of sound pertaining to the act of speech" (the distinction between language and speech being basically Saussure's distinction between *langue* and *parole*).

More recently, Lass (1998) writes that phonology refers broadly to the sub disciplines of linguistics concerned with the sounds of language, while in more narrow terms, "phonology proper is concerned with the function, behavior and organization of sounds as linguistic items."

According to Clark (2007), it means the systematic use of sound to encode meaning in any spoken human language, or the field of linguistics studying this use.

METHOD

Research Design

Library research was used in this study. It was applied to prove the truth of writing this research. In this matter, it tends to textual design in order to give exact information to support the organization of the design. It was done by consulting more data obtained from many references such as phonology books.

This study was based on a descriptive qualitative method. A descriptive method was used in collecting data and analyzed it. In this study, the data was collected, then classified and arranged it. Besides that, library research was used in analyzing the data required. Descriptive research was carried out to describe phonology in Minangkabau language.

The Technique of Data Collection

The technique of data collection was done by gathering all information about phonology in Minangkabau language.

The Technique of Data Analysis

The data was collected from many text books and collecting data from asking another people and related with subject matter. Then the data was analyzed and classified into description of Phonology system in Minangkabau language.

FINDINGS AND DISCUSSIONS

The writer tried to explain about phonology in Minangkabau language. Phonology is scientific study of the organization of speech sound.

Generally, the human communication is done through the use of language in written or spoken way. The first language is sound. The sound language was appeared by speech organ.

Minangkabau language has five vowels, 20 consonants and 7 diphthongs. The five vowels in Minangkabau language are /i/, /e/, /a/, /u/, /o/. The first diagram shows five vowels in Minangkabau language which has a basis of high-low parameter and in front-back tongue where it formed. The diagram shows that Minangkabau language has two high vowels, two middle vowels and one low vowel. According to the front-back tongue parameter, there are two vowels in front, one in middle and two in back.

Draft 1 : Vowel.

	Front	Centre	Back
High	i		u
Middle	e		o
Low		a	

Phoneme /i/ is high-front vowel. Examples :		
	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/ibo/	‘hiba’	‘pity’
/tigo/	‘tiga’	‘three’
/padi/	‘padi’	‘rice plant’
Phoneme /u/ is high-back vowel. Examples :		
/ula/	‘ular’	‘snake’
/gula/	‘gula’	‘sugar’
/ulu/	‘hulu’	‘uppear course’ (or river)
Phoneme /e/ is middle-front vowel. Examples :		
/elo/	‘hela’	‘drag’
/rendo/	‘renda’	‘lace’
/one/	‘ibu’	‘mother’
Phoneme /o/ is middle-back vowel. Examples :		
/ota/	‘omong’	‘talk’
/boto/	‘botol’	‘bottle’
/mato/	‘mata’	‘eye’

Phoneme /a/ is low-middle vowel. Examples :		
/atoq/	‘atap’	‘roof’
/bana/	‘benar’	‘right’
/kasa/	‘kasar’	‘rude’

The five vowels in Minangkabau language can be put in initial position, in middle or final position of the syllable. We can them is the next draft.

Draft 2 : Vowel position in syllable.

Position Phoneme	Initial	Middle	Final
/i/ Bahasa Indonesia English	/ibo/ibo/ Hiba Pity	/tigo/tigo Tiga Three	/padi/padi Padi Rice plant
Bahasa Indonesia English	/ikan/ikan Ikan Fish	/cinto/cinto Cinta Love	/udi/udi Sial unfortunate
/e/ Bahasa Indonesia English	/elo/elo Hela Drag	/rendo/rendo Renda Lace	/sate/sate Sate Small piece of meat roaster
Bahasa Indonesia English	/etong/etong Hitung Count	/pencon/pencong Tidak lurus Slanted	/one/one Ibu Mother
/a/ Bahasa Indonesia English	/atoq/atok Atap Roof	/bana/bana Benar Right	/kasa/kasa/ Kasar Rude
Bahasa Indonesia English	/alaw/alau Halau Chase	/baco/baco Baca Read	/tuka/tuka Tukar Change
/u/ Bahasa Indonesia English	/ula/ula Ular Snake	/gulo/gulo Gula Sugar	/ulu/ulu Hulu Uppear course
Bahasa Indonesia English	/uda/uda Abang Brother	/puta/puta Putar Turning	/pintu/pintu Pintu Door
/o/ Bahasa Indonesia English	/ota/ota Omong Talk	/boto/boto Botol Bottle	/mato/mato Mata Eye
Bahasa Indonesia English	/olog/olok Olok Joke	/tompan/tompang Tompang Join with other	/kudo/kudo Kuda Horse

Types and Distribution of Diphthong

Diphthong is speech sound which is usually considered as one distinctive vowel of a particular language, but really involves two vowels with one vowel gliding to others. Minangkabau language has seven diphthongs such as /ia/, /ua/, /ea/, /ui/, /au/, /ai/, /oi/.

Each diphthong can be written in phonemic way, they are /ia/, /ua/, /ea/, /uy/, /oy/, /aw/, and /ay/.

These examples will show the diphthong position in Minangkabau language.

A. Diphthong /ia/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/kambian/kambiang	‘kambing’	‘goat’
/sambia/sambia	‘sambil’	‘while’
/kanian/kaniang	‘kening’	‘forehead’
/adia/adia	‘adil’	‘fair’
B. Diphthong /ua/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/gapuaq/gapuak	‘gemuk’	‘fat’
/daguaq/daguak	‘dagu’	‘chin’
/taduah/taduah	‘teduh’	‘calm’
/talua/talua	‘telur’	‘egg’
C. Diphthong /ea/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
/gelean/geleang	‘geleng’	‘move from side to side’
/lerean/lereang	‘lereng’	‘slope of mountain’
D. Diphthong /ui/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
/muluig/muluk	‘mulut’	‘mouth’
/taruih/taruih	‘terus’	‘straight’
E. Diphthong /oi/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
/oi/oi	‘hai’	‘hello’
/roi/roi	‘mawar’	‘rose flower’
F. Diphthong /ai/ occurs in the middle or in the final position. Examples :		
/gulai/gulai	‘gulai’	‘curry’
/tapai/tapai	‘tapai’	‘sweet cake made of slightly forms rice of tubers’

The sequence of the two vowels as found in diphthongs can not separated. So, diphthongs must be different from ordinary sequence of vowels, that is the two sequence of vowel were precisely in a row.

The vowel rows in Minangkabau language.

Diphthongs	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/aa/ /baa/baa /rabaa/rabaa	Bagaimana Rabu	How Wednesday
/ai/ /pai/pai	Pergi	Go

/paik/paik	Pahit	Bitter
/au/ /daun/daun /bau/bau	Daun Bahu	Leaf Shoulder
/ao/ /pao/pao /rao/rao	Paha Rao	Thigh Rao (name of country)
/ae/ /bae/bae /gaeq/gaek	Pukul Tua	Hit Old
/ea/ /tea/tea /leaq/leak	Bodoh Lamban	Stupid Languid
/eo/ /beo/beo /seo/seo	Beo Sewa	Myna bird Rent
/iu/ /piutang/piutang /cium/cium	Piutang Cium	Credit Kiss
/io/ /tioq/tiok /cioq/ciok	Tiap Ciap	Every, each Cheap sound of bird and chicks
/ia/ /bia/bia /sia/sia	Biar Siapa	Let, permit Who is he or he
/ii/ /diimbau/diimbau /diinjaq/diinjak	Dipanggil Diinjak	Call Stirrup
/uo/ /suoq/suok /kuoq/kuok	Suap, kanan Kuap	Right A yawn
/ui/ /bui/bui /tui/tui	Bui Tui	Jail Tui (name of hill)
/ue/ /kue/kue /bueq/buek	Kue Buat	Cake Make
/ua/ /buah/buah /jua/jua	Buah Jual	Fruit Sell
/oa/ /doa/doa /loaq/loak	Doa Loak	Prayer Second hands

The consonant in Minangkabau language

A consonant is a speech sound where the airstream from the lungs is completely blocked (stop), partially blocked (lateral) or where the opening is so narrow that the air

escape with audible friction (fricative). With some consonant (nasals) the airstream is blocked in the mouth but allowed to escape through the nose.

In Minangkabau language there are twenty consonants such as : /p/, /b/, /m/, /w/, /t/, /d/, /n/, /l/, /r/, /s/, /c/, /j/, /y/, / ñ /, /k/, /g/, /n/, /z/, /h/, /?/.

Draft 3: The Consonants

Place of Bilabial articulation		Dental/Alveolar	Palatal	Velar	Glottal
Manner of articulation					
Stop/plosive					
Voiced	p	t	c	k	ʔ
Voiceless	b	d	j	g	
Fricative					
Voiced		s			h
Voiceless		z			
Nasal					
Voiced	m	N	ñ	n	
Trill					
Voiced		R			
Lateral					
Voiced		L			
Semi vowel					
Voiced	w			y	

Distribution of Consonants

In Minangkabau language, the consonants can be occur in the final position, limited to some phoneme such as: /p/, /b/, /t/, /ʔ /, /r/, /m/, /n/, /s/, /h/, and /l/. these examples below showed the consonant position in Minangkabau language.

A. Consonant /p/ can be occurs in initial, middle, and final position. Examples :		
	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/padusi/padusi	‘perempuan’	‘girl’
/kapa/kapa	‘kapal’	‘ship’
/siap/siap	‘siap’	‘ready’
B. Consonant /b/ can be occur in initial, middle, and final position. Examples :		
/balah/balah	‘belah’	‘crack’
/kaba/kaba	‘kabar’	‘news’
/rabab/rabab	‘rebab’	‘two stringed musical instrument’
C. Consonant /t/ can occur in initial, middle, and final position. Examples :		
/taba/taba	‘tebal’	‘thick’
/bateh/bateh	‘batas’	‘limit’

/tomat/tomat	'tomat'	'tomato'
D. Consonant /d/ can be occurs in initial, and middle position. Examples :		
/dapo/dapo	'depa'	'fathom'
/dadoq/dadok	'dedak'	'mixture of rice and bran'
E. Consonant /c/ can be occurs in initial, middle position. Examples :		
/cegaq/cegak	'sembuh'	'recover'
/gaca/gaca	'encer'	'liquid'
F. Consonant /j/ can be occurs in initial, and middle position. Examples :		
/jalo/jalo	'jala'	'net'
/gajah/gajah	'gajah'	'elephant'
G. Consonant /k/ can be occurs in initial and middle position. Examples :		
/kada/kada	'borok'	'ulcer, boil'
/cakaq/cakak	'kelahi'	'quarrel, fight'
H. Consonant /g/ can be occurs in initial and middle position. Examples :		
/gata/gata	'gatal'	'itch'
/paga/paga	'pagar'	'fence, hedge'
I. Consonant /z/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/zaman/zaman	'zaman'	'period'
/azan/azan	'azan'	'call to prayer'
J. Consonant /s/ can be occurs in initial, middle, and final position. Examples :		
/sureq/surek	'surat'	'letter'
/rasah/rasah	'resah'	'fridgaty, restless'
/tas/tas	'tas'	'bag, handbag'
K. Consonant /h/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/haq/hak	'hak'	'the right'
/aka baha/akar bahar	'akar bahar'	'we'
/rumah/rumah	'rumah'	'fever'
L. Consonant /m/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/maha/maha	'mahal'	'expensive'
/kami/kami	'kami'	'we'
/damam/damam	'demam'	'fever'
M. Consonant /n/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/namo/namo	'nama'	'name'
/banta/banta	'bantal'	'pillow'
/salin/salin	'salin'	'change'
N. Consonant /ñ/ can be occurs in intial and middle position. Examples :		
/ñalo/nyalo	'nyala'	'flame'
/ñañaq/nyanyak	'nyenyak'	'be sound of sleep'

O. Consonant /n/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/narai/ngarai /laniq/langik /pulan/pulang	'ngarai' 'langit' 'pulang'	'chasm' 'sky' 'go home'
P. Consonant /r/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/rancaq/rancak /bara/baca /gambar/gambar	'bagus' 'berapa' 'gambar'	'good' 'how much' 'picture'
Q. Consonant /l/ can be occurs in initial, middle and final position. Examples :		
/labo/labo /bulu/bulu /rol/rol	'labo' 'bulu' 'rol'	'profit' 'body hair' 'ruler'
R. Consonant /w/ can be occurs in initial and middle position. Examples :		
/wali/wali /kawan/kawan	'wali' 'kawan'	'representative' 'friend'
S. Consonant /y/ can be occurs in initial and middle position. Examples :		
/yakin/yakin /kayo/kayo	'yakin' 'kaya'	'sure' 'rich, wealthy'

A Sequence of Consonant

Minangkabau language does not have cluster consonant. On the other hand, we can find sequence of consonant such as:

	Bahasa Indonesia	English
/mp/ /ampek/ampek /tampa/tampa /impiq/impik	'ompat' 'tampar' 'impit'	'four' 'slap' 'be very close together'
/mb/ /sambilan/sambilan /samba/samba /amba/amba	'sembilan' 'sambal' 'hambar'	'nine' 'various spicy side dishes' 'tasteless, flat'
/nt/ /anta/anta /lanteh/lanteh /nantti/nanti	'antar' 'lantas' 'nanti'	'deliver, carry' 'straight away' 'wait'
/dn/ /randan/randang /indaq/indak /undi/undi	'rendang' 'tidak' 'undi'	'meat simmered in spices and coconut milk' 'no, not' 'draw'
/nc/		

/rancaq/rancak /lonceq/loncek /kunci/kunci	‘bagus’ ‘loncat’ ‘kunci’	‘good, pretty’ ‘jump’ ‘key’
/nj/ /anjuan/anjuang /anjaq/anjak /injaq/injak	‘anjung’ ‘pindah’ ‘injak’	‘extension, annex’ ‘move’ ‘stirrup’
/nk/ /anku/angku /tunku/tungku /bonka/bongka	‘engku’ ‘tungku’ ‘bongkar’	‘reference of mother’s young or brother’ ‘fire place’ ‘take a part, loading and unloading’
/ng/ /tanga/tangga /ungeh/unggeh /tongak/tonggak	‘tanggal’ ‘unggas’ ‘tonggak’	‘date’ ‘fowl’ ‘tree stump, pole’
/ns/ /sansei/sansei /sunsan/sunsang	‘sengsara’ ‘sungsang’	‘suffer, misery’ ‘upside down human being’

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

Conclusions

A. Language is a medium of communication to express our mind, opinion, ideas, feelings and sense to another. Language also has some characteristics, such as arbitrary, unique, spoken and systematic. Language can be divided into three types. They are :

- a. Spoken language
- b. Written language
- c. Gesture language

B. Phonology is scientific study of the organization of speech sound. In Minangkabau language there are five vowels, 20 consonants and 7 diphthongs.

The vowels are : /i/, /e/, /a/, /u/, and /o/.

The consonants, are : /p/, /b/, /m/, /w/, /t/, /d/, /n/, /l/, /r/, /s/, /c/, /j/, /y/, / ñ /, /k/, /g/, /n/, /z/, /h/,

/?/.

The diphthongs are : /ia/, /ua/, /ea/, /ui/, /au/, /ai/, /oi/.

Suggestions

Minangkabau Language continuously develops from time to time. The language always faces modernization and globalization era and may be influenced by other languages.

On this occasion, the writer would also like to suggest the readers to love and keep our native language because the native language is the production of our culture which is a sign of our national life.

The writer realizes that it is still far from being perfect because morphology in Minangkabau Language is so wide and the writer wants the readers who know well about this subject and would complete this thesis and make this thesis better that will be useful for public.

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