

The Use of Bahasa Indonesia among Sundanese Teenagers in Ciheleut-Bogor, West Java

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ABSTRACT

Sundanese is a language which is used in Bogor, West Java as cultural identity. The use of Sundanese in Bogor is greatly decreasing because of the use of Indonesian as the national language. This phenomenon also leads up the teenagers in Bogor to use Bahasa Indonesia rather than Sundanese. Therefore this research is purposed to find out the certain domain in using Bahasa Indonesia, and the factors that influence the use of Bahasa Indonesia. To get the accurate results, the research is done by collecting the questioner from the teenagers. The observation about what kind of language which is used by the teenagers also supports to get explanation in detail. Therefore, the research concludes that Bahasa Indonesia has replaces Sundanese, which is vernacular language in Bogor. The research found out that the teenagers use Bahasa Indonesia in some certain domains. The factors that support the teenagers in using Bahasa Indonesia are their family, domain, attitudes, and the economic, social and political factors.

Key word: Language use, Bahasa Indoneisa, Sundanese, teenagers

1. Introduction

Indonesia is formed from many kinds of cultures, and each region in Indonesia has different language to use. Therefore, Indonesia uses Indonesian language or Bahasa Indonesia as a national language. Bahasa Indonesia is used in education, government, and big cities in Indonesia as people's daily language. By using Bahasa Indonesia, many people no longer use their traditional language, which is their mother tongue.

The phenomenon of using Bahasa Indonesia rather than traditional language also occurs among Sundanese teenagers in Ciheuleut - Bogor, West Java. The teenagers in Bogor prefer using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese, their mother

tongue. This phenomenon might happen because they thought that Bahasa Indonesia is a good one.

Many people especially the teenagers in Bogor are ignoring their mother tongue. They have no awareness that their mother tongue might shift or even disappear when they give up using their mother tongue and use the other language. Unfortunately, there are so many people who are unaware of the language shift that might occur. Especially for the teenagers in Bogor, they know nothing about the use of Bahasa Indonesia that might shift Sundanese.

1.1 Literary Review

Language shift is a phenomenon when a language is replaced by another language. Language shift phenomenon could begin by the language that is no longer used by the children as native languages, and usually it is used by aging group of adults only (Spolsky, 1998: 55). Holmes (1992) claims that language shift could happen when the societies give up using their language and decide to use another language as their new language.

There must be reasons for language shift phenomenon. Political, economic, and social changes are considered as the factors that contribute to language shift. However, Holmes concludes that there are three factors that cause the shifting of language they are economic, social and political factors; demographic factors; and the last is attitudes and values (Holmes, 1992: 58).

The economic, social and political factors are considered as an important reason to learn another language. Therefore, the economic, social and political

factors might cause the bilingualism and language shift (Holmes, 1992: 58). In the other case, the demographic factors also contribute to language shift phenomenon. Holmes claims that shift tends to occur faster in some groups than the other. The size of the groups is sometimes a critical factor (1992: 60). The attitudes and values of each people also give the influence on the language shift phenomenon. The shifting is based on the people's attitudes toward their language. Holmes claims when the language has a high value, and people's attitudes support the language it might cause the language to be maintained longer although it is a minority language (1992: 61).

1.2 Research Methodology

The paper is kind of qualitative research. The research uses the data that are collected from the questioner that has been answered by the teenagers in Bogor. Moreover, the researcher collects some data from the researcher's observation toward the language that is used by the teenager in Bogor. Therefore, the type of data that the researcher uses is written data gotten from the questioner. The other type of data that are needed for the research is the spoken data which is the teenagers' utterances from the observation.

The populations of the data are the teenagers who are native speakers of Sundanese in Bogor. The researcher uses the purposive random sampling, because the researcher has the criteria in choosing the sample needed as the data source. Some criteria or requirements needed are:

1. The data source is the teenage by the age 12 years old to 22 years old.

2. The teenage native speaker of Sundanese.
3. Their parents are Sundanese.
4. The teenagers must live in Bogor for long time at least for five years.

The questioner and observation method is used to collect the data. The questioner consists of some close questions. This questionnaire is purposed to find out the Bogor teenagers' response about their native language or mother tongue. In observation method, the researcher observes the utterances that they produced. The utterances show the language that is used by the teenagers in Bogor either with their family, friends, or another people.

In preparing the research the recording and note taking technique is used. The researcher used non-participant recording technique to get some data for the research. The recording technique supports the observation method. The data is analysed by using *padan* method. In analysing the data, the researcher also uses referential and pragmatic method which is kind of *padan* method.

2. Discussion

The use of Sundanese in Bogor is categorized as a minority. It is caused by the fact that the teenagers prefer using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese. They do not speak Sundanese in their daily life, although their mother tongue is Sundanese. There is the chart that shows the percentage of the use of Bahasa Indonesia.

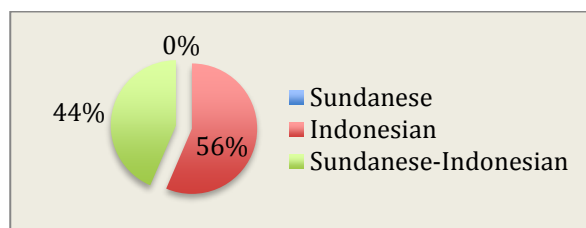


Chart 1

According to the data that have been collected, Bahasa Indonesia has replaced Sundanese, which is the mother tongue of the teenagers in Bogor. Bahasa Indonesia has become the language that they use every day. In contrast, Sundanese seems like foreign language that they use rarely. From the questionnaire data that have been collected, the researcher concludes that there are only few teenagers who could speak Sundanese.

2.1 Domain

The use of Bahasa Indonesia has been more effective than Sundanese. The people speak Bahasa Indonesia to anyone, anywhere, and anytime. This phenomenon influences the teenagers in Bogor in using Bahasa Indonesia.

The teenagers in Bogor decide to use Bahasa Indonesia in both of formal situation and informal situation. Actually there are some certain domains of the use of Bahasa Indonesia. They decide to use Bahasa Indonesia in some certain domains such as at home, at the market, and at school. These dialogues might show how far the teenagers decide to use Bahasa Indonesia as their communication tool.

◆ at home

Dialogue 1

Desi : ***Mang***, aku besok mau ke botani ***tea***. Mamang jadi nganter kan?

(Uncle, I'll go to botani tomorrow. You would drive me, wouldn't you?)

- Uncle : *Jam sabaraha des? Pan besok mah mamang na ge interview.*
(What time? Tomorrow I have an interview.)
- Desi : *Malem da mang, siang mah desi mau ngerjain tugas.*
(At night, because I have to do my home work at the day.)
- Uncle : *Heeuh atuh malem mah mamang udah beres interview.*
(Allright, because at night the interview has finished.)

The conversation is placed at the respondent's home. The conversations show that the teenager prefers using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese. In the dialogue, the teenager tends to use Bahasa Indonesia, while her uncle combine Bahasa Indonesia and Sundanese to communicate. However, Sundanese is only used for addressing such as *mang* or *mamang*, and particular particle such as *atuh*, *tea*, *pan*, *ge*, *mah*, *teh* and *da*. In fact, these particular particles have no concrete meaning.

◆ at the market

Dialogue 2

- Difa : *Bu ini tadi mie ayam sama teh botol jadi berapa?*
(Ma'am I order *mie ayam* and *teh botol*, how much is it?)
- Seller : *Tiga belas ribu.*
(Thirteen thousand rupiahs.)
- Difa : *Ini bu*
(Here you are.)
- Seller : *Ini kembaliannya tujuh ribu, dihitung dulu.*
(Here is the change seven thousand rupiah, count it first.)
- Difa : *Iya bu udah. Makasih ya bu.*
(Alright ma'am, thank you.)

The dialogue above shows the conversation between the teenager and the seller. The conversation occurs in semi formal situation which is placed at the market. On the conversation he prefers using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese. According to the data that have been collected, the other respondents also choose to use Bahasa Indonesia to communicate with another people.

◆ at school

Dialogue 3

Miss Eva : *Ari, nanti Ibu tidak bisa masuk. Nanti kalian ngisi latihan LKS bahasa Sunda ya.*

(Ari, I can not come to class today. Please do the exercises on *LKS bahasa Sunda*.)

Ari : *Oh iya bu. Ibu mau kemana bu?*

(All right ma'am. Where will you go ma'am?)

Miss Eva : *Ibu lagi ada keperluan jadi engga bisa masuk. Temen-temen nya di kasih tahu ya.*

(I have something to do, therefore I can not come today. Please tell your friends to do the exercises.)

Ari : *Iya bu, nanti tugas nya dikumpulkan?*

(All right ma'am. Do the tasks should be collected?)

Miss Eva : *Iya, dikumpulkan di meja Ibu. Jangan ribut ya ri awas!*

(Yes of course, please put it on my table. Be quite!)

Ari : *Iya bu Eva.*

(Yes ma'am.)

The dialogue above shows the conversation between the student and his teacher at school. This conversation is in formal situation. The dialogue shows that the student uses Bahasa Indonesia to communicate with his teacher. Even though the teacher is a Sundanese teacher, the students choose to use Bahasa Indonesia and so does the teacher. From the data questionnaire, some of the respondents admit that using Bahasa Indonesia while speaking to other people shows the formality and politeness.

2.2 Factors that Influence on The Use of Bahasa Indonesia

1. Family Influence

Considering that the teenagers' mother tongue is Sundanese, it means that their family is Sundanese. According to that fact, the family of the teenagers should give support toward the use of Sundanese. However, the family of the teenagers in Bogor do not give support toward the use of Sundanese.

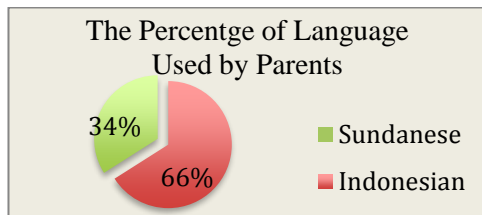


Chart 2.1

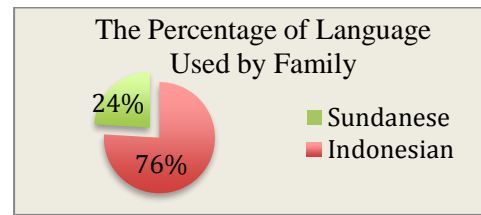


Chart 2.2

Nowadays, the numbers of parents who use Sundanese as their language to communicate are fewer than Bahasa Indonesia. The parents and the family of the teenagers in Bogor prefer using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese, even though they could speak Sundanese. The family are no longer using Sundanese to communicate, even though to share a little information. There is a dialogue that shows the use of Bahasa Indonesia by the teenagers and their family. Based on this phenomenon, the position of Sundanese in Bogor is very vulnerable to shift.

2. Domain

The domain also gives the influence on the language that is used by the people. Different domain might result different language which is used by the people. This fact also influence on the use of Bahasa Indonesia by the teenagers who live in Bogor. The teenagers use Bahasa Indonesia in some certain domains. As mentioned before, the domain might be at home, at the school, and at the market.

However, the big influence might come from the education domain. School, which is education environment, is the place where the teenagers get formal education. According to the data that have been collected, the researcher concludes that the education environment gives a big influence on the use of

Bahasa Indonesia by the teenagers in Bogor. The implementation of Bahasa Indonesia as a national language, which is used in education field, makes the teenagers thought that Bahasa Indonesia is more important and more effective language to use than Sundanese. As a result, the teenagers tend to use Bahasa Indonesia rather than Sundanese, which is their mother tongue.

3. Attitude

From the data questionnaire, the researcher finds out that their attitude toward the using of Sundanese is negative, because they are no longer using Sundanese to communicate. By observing their response about language use of Sundanese, they are categorized as disloyal. From the questionnaire, the data show that they deny using Sundanese because they have no confident in using Sundanese. Remembering that Sundanese is their mother tongue, this phenomenon should not happen. Their attitude is more positive toward Bahasa Indonesia. They prefer using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese, because they have more confident in using Bahasa Indonesia. The following dialogue is an example that shows the teenager's attitude toward Sundanese.

Dialogue 4

Feliya : *Kamu mau makan apa?*
(What will you eat?)

Lia : *Tau nih fey bingung, banyak bener pilihannya.*
(I don't know fey, there are so many choices.)

Feliya : *Yaelah tinggal pesen aja susah kau.*
(You just need to order, why it is so hard?)

Lia : *Bingung fey ah.*
(I am confused.)

Feliya : *Lama banget.*
(You are too long.)

The dialogue shows that the teenagers in Bogor use Bahasa Indonesia to communicate with their friends even in situation when they could speak Sundanese. The respondents said that using Bahasa Indonesia is easier than using Sundanese. It is due to the fact that some of their friends do not understand Sundanese properly. Therefore, they are more confident in using Bahasa Indonesia, and decide to use Bahasa Indonesia to get an easy communication.

The fact of the teenagers' attitude, which no longer use their mother tongue, influences the use of Bahasa Indonesia among the teenagers in Bogor. The phenomenon of the teenagers' negative attitude might result the shifting of Sundanese.

4. Economic, Social, and Political Factors

Social environment gives the big influence on the use of Bahasa Indonesia among the teenagers in Bogor. Based on the data questioner that has been collected, the researcher finds out the reason of the use of Bahasa Indonesia among the teenagers. They prefer using Bahasa Indonesia to Sundanese because more people who live around them do not speak Sundanese. Most of the people who live around them came from another city, and speak Bahasa Indonesia. The large number of the people who are not speaking Sundanese, forces the local residents to use Bahasa Indonesia to get appropriate communication.

By observing the data, the researcher finds out that the teenagers admit that Bahasa Indonesia is an effective language to use, since Bahasa Indonesia is used as a national language in economic, political and education fields. By using

Bahasa Indonesia in many kinds of field, it influences the teenagers to use Bahasa Indonesia as an effective language rather than Sundanese. Therefore, they decide to use Bahasa Indonesia because they thought that Bahasa Indonesia is an important language that every body could understand. In addition, by using Bahasa Indonesia the misunderstanding in communication would not happen.

3. Conclusion

The research concludes that most of teenagers in Bogor use Bahasa Indonesia to communicate. Most of the teenagers in Bogor are no longer using Sundanese and decide to use Bahasa Indonesia. They use Bahasa Indonesia either in informal situation, semi formal situation, or formal situation. The use of Bahasa Indonesia itself occurs in some domain such as at home, at the market, and at the school. This phenomenon shows that Bahasa Indonesia has replaced Sundanese.

Actually, there are some factors that influence the use of Bahasa Indonesia by Sundanese teenagers. The first factor comes from their family who no longer use Sundanese to communicate. Another influence also comes from the domain or the place where the communication occurs. The other factor is their attitude toward Sundanese. From the research it can be concluded that they have no confident to use Sundanese, as a result they decide to use Bahasa Indonesia to communicate. The last factor is economic, social, and political factors. The using of Bahasa Indonesia in economic, political, and education also makes the teenagers thought that Bahasa Indonesia is an important language to use.

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