



A DIALECTAL VARIATION OF NORTH LINTAU BUO AND LAREH SAGO HALABAN SUB-DIALECT OF MINANGKABAUNESE LANGUAGE

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Abstract

This research investigates Minangkabaunese language dialectal variations of North Lantau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect, in the level of phonological and lexical. This research uses descriptive-qualitative method to analyse 277 data from 207 Swadesh list and 70 personal data from basic vocabularies used in daily conversation in the two sub-dialects. It is found that there are 102 lexicons in phonological variations with 7 phonological variations identified in North Lantau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. They are the insertion of phoneme /h/ at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban's words; the deletion of phoneme /u/ at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban's words; phoneme /o/ in North Lantau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /a/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect; phoneme /y/ is replaced with phoneme /r/; phoneme /u/ is replaced with phoneme /a/; phoneme /t/ is replaced with phoneme /n/; and phoneme /g/ is replaced with phoneme /c/. In addition, there were also 29 lexical variations among those sub-dialects. Lastly, based on the calculation of dialectometrical formula, it is found that the percentage of the differences is 47,3%. This percentage implies that both of sub-dialects are sub-dialectal difference. Overall, the results reveal that the two sub-dialects are characterized by unique linguistic features, which become evident through the variations found between them.

Key words: Dialectology, Phonological, Lexical, North Lantau Buo, Lareh Sago Halaban

A. INTRODUCTION

Language constitutes a fundamental aspect of human existence. It is not only used as a medium of communication but also a medium for expressing

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thoughts, culture, and identity. Genetti (2019) notes that language serves as the primary tool for the development of cultures and societies. Thus, language is essential for human communication, and it could possibly change over the time.

The development of culture and society create the changes in language as well. Campbell (1999) mentions that language undergoes dynamic modifications in several linguistic areas, such as phonology, grammar, and semantics, along with the influence of borrowing, analogy, and related processes. There are some reasons why language changed, namely anatomy and ethnic character, climate and geography, substratum or migrations, local identification, functional need, simplification, and structural pressure (Crowley & Bower, 2010).

According to Katamba (1989), Phonology is one of linguistics study that explores the ways in which speech sounds are used systematically to form words and utterances. Phonology is the study of the language-specific selection and organization of sounds to signal meanings. Besides, phonologists are the one who interested to learn the sound patterns of language which is studied in the subject of phonology (McMahon, 2002). Ladefoged and Johnson (2011) defined phonology is the description of the systems and patterns of sounds that occur in a language which involves the study of a language to determine its distinctive sounds, that is, those sounds that convey a difference in meaning.

Those changes occur in dialect as well. Aitchison (2001) states dialect geography refers to how the language features spread across regions. In the field of dialect geography, researchers aim to obtain empirical evidence to determine the existence of linguistic variation within a particular region. Dialect differences are seen as the outcomes of linguistic innovations that diffuse across geographical areas (Chambers & Trudgill, 1998). According to Francis (1983), phonology and lexicon constitute the main areas in which dialect research has produced its most substantial contributions. These two components represent key points of intersection between dialectology and linguistic theory. On the phonological field, researchers study four aspects, namely the traditional, the structural, the generative and the sociolinguistics. Those phenomena have been investigated by researchers with applications to specific dialects and sub-dialects.

The study of phonology and lexical can be involved in local language, such as in Minangkabaunese language. Minangnese language or Minangkabaunese language, is a language spoken by Minangkabau society who mostly stay in West Sumatra. Kharisma et al. (2021) mention Minangkabaunese language is one of the local language developed and grown in Indonesia which are spoken by people in West Sumatra. Zalner (1984) in Ayub (1993) also say Minangkabau is one of the regional languages survived within the Austronesian family. In addition, Minangkabaunese language refers to the branches of Polynesian Malay language that have close similarities with Indonesian in the aspect of lexicons, morphemes and syntax (Ayub, 1993).

In the previous studies, there are many researchers who have conducted the same topic of study related to dialectology, focusing on geographical dialect. Rahmi and Rosa (2019) studied phonetic phonetic and phonological differences between the Batusangkar and Lintau Buo sub-dialects of Minangkabaunese. The study showed that there are 13 sound changes. The changes were further divided

into five vowel changes, that are [a] to [əʊ], [ɪ], [ə], and [ɑ:] to [ɔ:]. Next, 4 consonant changes, namely [k] to [ŋ], [r] to [w] and [u], and [t] to [m], and 4 diphthong changes, which are [ɪa] to [ɪə] and [ɪʊ], [ʊa] to [ʊə] and [ʊ]. Besides they also found out the caused of sound changes. They are assimilation, dissimilation, insertion, and deletion. Furthermore, Wansyah & Jufrizal (2022) conducted a study lexical comparison of Tanjung Bonai Aur in Sijunjung with standard Minangkabau language. The research proved that Tanjung Bonai Aur sub-dialect are closely related to the standard Minangkabaunese language. They also found out five main findings, which are the changes of phoneme /a/ to /o/ in the first syllable, phoneme /r/ to /w/ in the middle syllable, phoneme /a/ to /əu/ at the end syllable, phoneme /r/ to /u/ in the middle syllable, and lastly, full lexicon differences.

Then, Putri & Fitrawati (2020) also carried out a research about the phonological and lexical comparison of Pariaman dialect with Standard Minangkabau. Their research revealed that phoneme /a/ is changed to phoneme /e/ in Pariaman dialect, phoneme /h/ in Pariaman dialect is omitted in their first syllable, phoneme /r/ is changed to phoneme /ʁ/ in Pariaman dialect, and lastly, they also found out that there are lexical differences. Lastly, Mafardi, Fitri & Yunita (2024) analyzed dialect variation in North Lintau Buo, a region with five *nagari* (villages) that despite their proximity and exhibit linguistic differences due to geography and social interactions. The result showed that those dialects have 98 words similarities and 102 words differences out of 200 words in total.

Previous studies have indeed explored about dialect geography. However, the researcher only focused on comparing a sub-dialect with the standard form of its language and comparing sub-dialects exist in one area. Rahmi and Rosa (2019) only studied the phonetics and phonological comparison of the two sub-dialects without the lexical aspect. In contrast, Wansyah & Jufrizal (2022) compared sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabau language, but only focusing on its lexical aspect. Putri & Fitrawati (2020) also compared sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabau language but this study compared lexical and phonological aspects. Mafardi, Fitri & Yunita (2024) focused on the comparison of the sub-dialects exist in the North Lintau Buo subdistrict. The researcher noticed that there are limited comparison studies of sub-dialect in bordering area in local language.

In this research, the researcher focused on phonological and lexical variation in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect compared to spoken language to Lareh Sago Halaban. It is important to conduct the research because this topic has never been explored before especially those two sub-dialects. Both of regions are separated by geographic boundaries, such as hills, mount, plantations, and rivers. Those regions are expected to have variations in their phonological and lexical aspects due to its geographical conditions. This study held theoretical and practical significance. In theoretical significance, this study contributes to an understanding of phonological and lexical variation in Minangkabaunese language. In addition, it also helps to serve an empirical data in supporting language contact analyses and helps people to have better understanding of North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. Furthermore, practical significance of this study is related to cultural preservation, education and cross-

regional communication. Besides, this study also helps linguists to preserve local dialect and promotes regional identity of those two regions.

B. RESEARCH METHOD

This study utilized descriptive-qualitative methodology to describe and analyze the data. Richards and Morse (2002) a qualitative research approach in which the researcher strives to provide a comprehensive, well-rounded description of a phenomenon from the perspective of the participants. This method used to describe phonological and lexical data explanation. The data of this research are the vocabularies spoken by native speaker of North Lintau Buo in Tanah Datar Regency and Lareh Sago Halaban in Limapuluh Kota Regency. To collect the data, the researcher interviewed ten people in total. There are five native speakers from North Lintau Buo and five native speakers from Lareh Sago Halaban. The process of interviewing were recorded to help the researcher analyze the data later. According to Chambers (1998), the specification of informant in dialectology research consisted of nonmobile, older, rural males, which usually mentioned using acronym NORMs.

The instrument employed in this research is a word list from Swadesh list table as a guide in the interview process. The list of words contains 207 basic vocabulary terms, which cover topics body parts, pronouns and addresses, kinship relationships, equipment, plants, animals, colors, numbers, measurements, verbs, adjectives, nouns, times, nature conditions, and directions. Furthermore, the researcher also added 70 words that are considered unique and use in daily conversation. The researcher also became the instrument of this research because the researcher directly interviewed the participants to the field. This research used tools like recording tools, note book, pens, etc. Besides the use of swadesh table, the researcher also calculate the differences of North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect using Dialectometrical formulation (Revier, 1975 in Ayatrohaedi, 1979)

C. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

1. Research Finding

This study aimed to find the dialectal variation exist among North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect in the level of phonological and lexical. The data of phonological and lexical variation were shown in the Swadesh table. The total of differences were calculated using dialectometrical formula to examine the percentage of their differences. According to the analysis, there are two main findings. First, the researcher found 7 type of phonological variations. Out of total 277 lexicons used in this research; there were 102 lexicons that have phonological variations. These findings are categorized into five parts of speech: verbs, nouns, adjectives, adverbs, and determiners. Each part of speech demonstrates a different number of occurrences, namely 40 verbs, 30 nouns, 25 adjectives, 6 adverbs, and 1 determiner. The variations are summarized as below:

- 1) The insertion of phoneme /h/ at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban's words

This finding is proved by the example of the word 'to lie (as in bed) or *rebahan*' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is 'baoba' [baoba] /baoba/ while in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect is 'baobah' [baobah] /baobah/. This example shows that there are phoneme /h/ inserted in the final position of word 'to lie'.

- 2) The deletion of phoneme /u/ at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban's words

The word 'snake' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect 'ulau' [ɔlau] /ɔlau/ is changed to 'ula' [ɔla] /ɔla/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. The example proves that the omission of phoneme /u/ in this word are at the end of word.

- 3) The substitution of phoneme /o/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect with phoneme /a/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect

The substitution of phoneme /o/ to phoneme /a/ occurs in the beginning of word and in the middle of word. For example, in the beginning of word is the word 'to throw' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is 'ombuang' [ombuan] /ombuan/ while in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect is 'ambuag' [ambuag] /ambuag/. This example clearly shows the changes of phoneme /o/ to phoneme /a/ in the initial of a word. Another example that shows the changes of phoneme /o/ to phoneme /a/ in the middle of a word is the word 'to borrow' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is 'solang' [solan] /solan/. On the other hand, in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect is 'salang' [salaŋ] /salaŋ/. This shows the changes of phoneme /o/ to phoneme /a/ in the middle of a word.

- 4) The substitution of phoneme /y/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect with phoneme /r/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect

The word 'sun' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect 'matoaghi' [matoayɪ] /matoayɪ/ is replaced with 'matoari' [matoari] /matoari/. It shows how the phoneme /y/ in the middle of *matoaghi* is changed into *matoari* in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.

- 5) The substitution of phoneme /u/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect with phoneme /a/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect

This variation shows up 2 times and happens in the final position of words. For example, the word 'water' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is 'ayiu' [ajɪu] /ajɪu/ while in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect 'ayia' [ajɪa] /ajɪa/. Based on the example, it proves that this variation occurs at the end of words.

- 6) The substitution of phoneme /t/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect with phoneme /n/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect

This variation was found 2 times. For example, the word 'there' in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect 'disitan' [dɪsɪtan] /dɪsɪtan/ is replaced with 'disinan' [dɪsɪnan] /dɪsɪnan/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.

- 7) The substitution of phoneme /g/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect with phoneme /c/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect

This variation only appears one time in the data. The word ‘earlier’ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect ‘gako’ [gako] /gako/ is replaced to ‘cako’ [cako] /cako/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.

Besides categorizing them into their part of speech. The researcher also count the number of each type appeared in the data. Here are the table that showed the total number of each type:

Table 1. The Total Number of Phonological Varitions in North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban Sub-dialect

No.	Phonological Variations	Examples		Total
		NLB Sub-dialect	LSH Sub-dialect	
1.	Phoneme /h/ is inserted at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban’s words.	Jatua [dzatʊa] /dzatʊa/	Jatuah [dzatʊah] /dzatʊah/	25
2.	Phoneme /u/ is omitted at the end of Lareh Sago Halaban’s words.	Sintukau [sintokao] /sintokao/	Sintuka [sintoka] /sintoka/	19
3.	Phoneme /o/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /a/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.	Sompik [sompɪʔ] /sompɪʔ/	Sampik [sampɪʔ] /sampɪʔ/	47
4.	Phoneme /ɣ/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /r/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.	Aghi [aɣɪ] /aɣɪ/	Ari [arɪ] /arɪ/	14

5.	Phoneme /u/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /a/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.	Tangayiu [taŋajɪʊ] /taŋajɪʊ/	Tangayia [taŋajɪa] /taŋajɪa/	5
6.	Phoneme /t/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /n/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.	Kasitan [kasitan] /kasitan/	Kasinan [kasman] /kasman/	2
7.	Phoneme /g/ in North Lintau Buo sub-dialect is replaced with phoneme /c/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.	Gako [gako] /gako/	Cako [cako] /cako/	1

Out of 277 lexicons used in the research, it was found that there are 29 lexicons that are lexically different from North Lintau Buo sub-dialect to Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. These lexical variations were categorized based on their parts of speech. The analysis revealed that the distribution of the varied lexical items consists of 11 nouns, 7 verbs, 5 adjectives, 3 adverbs, and 3 determiners. Here is the table that shows the total number for each finding based on its grammatical aspect:

Table 2. The Total Number of Phonological Variations in North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban Sub-dialect

No	Part of Speech	Examples		Total
		NLB Sub-dialect	LSH Sub-dialect	
1.	Noun	Lobua [lobua] /lobua/	Jalan [dʒalan] /dʒalan/	11

2.	Verb	Soto [soto] /soto/	Ikuik [ikuɪʔ] /ikuɪʔ/	7
3.	Adjective	Kutai [kutaɪ] /kutaɪ/	Cabiak [cabiʔ] /cabiʔ/	5
4.	Adverb	Kodok [kodoʔ] /kodoʔ/	Acok [acoʔ] /acoʔ/	3
5.	Determiner	Sangenek [saŋeneʔ] /saŋeneʔ/	Saketek [saketeʔ] /saketeʔ/	3

From the analysis of the data and the research findings, it clearly shows that North Lintau Buo sub-dialect and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect have phonological and lexical variations. The total number of variations identified across both aspects amounts to 131 items, consisting of 102 phonological variations and 29 lexical variations, out of a total of 277 words analyzed. Those variations reveal that both of sub-dialect have their own characteristics. Those words are pronounced differently while still have the same meaning. Those differences also prove that North Lintau Buo is phonologically and lexically difference with Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect.

Beside those findings, the researcher also wants to see the percentage of the differences among North Lintau Buo sub-dialect and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. This process utilizes the formula that introduced by Guiter (1975) in Ayatrohaedi (1973). The percentage are calculated and explained as below:

$$\text{Index d\%} = (S \times 100) / n$$

$$\text{d\%} = (131 \times 100\%) / 277$$

$$\text{d\%} = 47,3\%$$

The calculation above shows that the percentage of the phonological and lexical variations are 47,3%. According to Guiter (1975) in Ayatrohaedi (1973), the percentage ranging from 31 to 50 % are considered sub-dialectal differences. This theory reveal that North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban are sub-dialect differences.

2. Discussion

Based on the result and findings, the analysis showed phonological and lexical variations among North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. first, phonological variation, the researcher found 102 lexicons that have phonological variations. The variations itself are divided into 7 types of variations. Those variations are the insertion of phoneme /h/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect, the deletion of phoneme /u/ in Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect, phoneme /o/ is changed to /a/, phoneme /y/ to phoneme /r/, phoneme /u/ to phoneme /a/, phoneme /t/ to phoneme /n/, phoneme /g/ to phoneme /c/. The data were also classified to their parts of speech. It was consisting of 40 verbs, 30 nouns, 25 adjectives, 6 adverbs, and 1 determiner.

In addition, the researcher also identified 29 lexical items that are completely distinct from one another. The results show that the lexical variations consist of 11 nouns, 7 verbs, 5 adjectives, 3 adverbs, and 3 determiners.

The result of this study aligned with the study conducted by Helmita and Anggriani (2022) that showed phonological differences between Kerinci sub-dialects, namely Kerinci Siulak and Rawang sub-dialects. They found out that there are 23 phonemes variations found in the research. In addition, Putri and Jufrizal (2023) also conducted a study of Muaro Takung and Moloro sub-dialect. Based on the findings, they found out that there are 97 lexical differences categorized into seven parts of speech, with notable phonemic shifts such as /s/ → /h/ and /r/ → /y/. Along with that, Sultana and Ardi (2017) also conducted a dialectal comparison of Maninjau and Tiku Sub-dialect. From 234 words, they found out that there are 82 different lexicons. Furthermore, Putri and Jufrizal (2021) conducted an investigation of phonological changes of Minangkabaunese language spoken by Chinese ethnic in Padang. The result of the research showed that the dialect of Minangkabau Pondok has less variations. The findings revealed The diphthongs in Minangkabau Language [ua] and [ia] were changed into monophthongs in Minangkabau Pondok dialect.

In addition, the dialectometrical calculation between the North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialects indicates that the percentage of difference between both of sub-dialects is 47.3%. According to Guiter (1975) in Ayatrohaedi (1973), a percentage ranging from 31% to 50% is classified as a sub-dialectal difference. This result was similar to the research conducted by previous researchers. Suksio and Jufrizal (2024) studied about the comparison of Lubuk Basung sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese language. This research showed that Lubuk Basung sub-dialect and the standard Minangkabaunese language are sub-dialectal difference with 33.5% of differences. Putri and Jufrizal (2022) also carried out the dialectometric calculation of Muaro Takung and Maloro sub-dialect. The analysis of this study showed that both of Muaro Takung and Maloro sub-dialect are sub-dialectal differences. Muaro Takung sub-dialect had 25.9% lexical difference. On the other hand, Maloro had 35.3%.

In addition, Larizky (2023) carried out a comparison study of lexical variation of Agam Tanah Datar dialect in Nagari Gunuang of Padang Panjang city. The result showed OP I- OP II 22,3%, OP I - OP III 8,6%, OP I - OP IV

24,6%, OP II - OP III 24%, OP II - OP IV 4,8%, and lastly, OP III - OP IV 26,5% for four observation point. This findings implied that those comparison showed a speech difference and no difference.

D. CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTIONS

The purpose of this study are to find out dialectal variations occurred in North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect. Based on the result of the research, the researcher found out both phonological and lexical variations among those two sub-dialects. Out of 277 data used in this researcher, the researcher identified 102 words that have phonological variations. Those findings were shown 7 type of phonological variations. Besides phonological variations, the researcher also found out lexical variations. Based on the analysis, there are 29 words that are lexically different among those two sub-dialects. These variations show that the lexicons are fully changed while still have the same meaning. In addition, the researcher also calculated the percentage of dialectal differences of those sub-dialect. The analysis shows that the percentage of differences of North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect are 47,3%. This number implies that North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialect are sub-dialectal differences. Based on the findings of this study, the researcher concludes that the North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialects possess distinct linguistic characteristics that differentiate them from one another, which proved by the variations identified in the analysis. The findings contribute to dialect geography by providing empirical evidence of sub-dialectal variation within the Minangkabau language. Although North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban are geographically adjacent sub-districts, they demonstrate sub-dialectal differences shaped by geographical factors. Geographical conditions such as hills and rivers, serves as natural barriers that limit interaction between the two regions. Furthermore, language contact with other speech communities has also contributed to the differences of these sub-dialectal variations.

For future research, the researcher recommends that further studies explore additional linguistic aspects of the North Lintau Buo and Lareh Sago Halaban sub-dialects, such as phonology, syntax, semantics, or sociolinguistic features. Moreover, the approach used in this study may be applied to other sub-dialects within the region to help linguists in systematically documenting and preserving the linguistic data of local languages. A more in-depth study of local languages can strengthen the cultural identity of the speech communities and increase awareness of the linguistic diversity that exists within the region.

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