

**A STUDY ON COMPARISON BETWEEN THE DIALECTS OF WEST SIMEULUE  
AND MIDDLE SIMEULUE**

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**Abstract**

This study is about a comparative study between the dialect of West Simeule and Middle Simeulu. The aim of this study is to find out the differences between the dialects of west Simeulue and middle Simeulue. The subject of this study is all of the utterances of West Simeulue and Middle Simeulue dialects. While the sample of the study is taken from twenty adult informants who are native speakers from the two dialects. The data needed are collected through interview. Meanwhile the data gotten are analyzed by describing the difference between dialects which are used by people of West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu. The result of the study shows that there are three different dialects that are used in West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu; differences in morphology, differences in preposition, differences in vocabulary.

**Key Words:** *West Simeulue Dialect, Middle Simeulue Dialect*

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## **A. The Background**

In our country, there are many local languages, where the local language is used at specific native and all of them can add treasury word in national language. In local language sometime it is found some differences in dialect. Imulun (Middle Simeulu) language is a language that is in use by most inhabitants of the island of Simeulu, Aceh province. Central Simeulu native speakers residing in the eastern region. Teupah Selatan districts, sub-districts West Teupah, Teupah Tengah, and sub-districts of Simeulu Teupah selatan. Number of speakers Imulun now estimated at 56.000 people. On the island of Simeulu, in addition to language sigulai, imulun also contained language that is the language spoken by the people who live in the western districts of Simeulu, Alafan districts, and Salang districts.

In addition to the language used by native speakers sigulai also used as communication language by speakers of other languages who live on the island of Simeulu in their communication within the community of researchers observed in previous research, namely the study of morphology and syntax Simeulu Language (1981), the use of this language in the people are already quite

widespread. Speakers Imulun, Sigulai also mastered the language and can use it well when they communicate with speakers Imulun. Sigulai so dominant language among residents of the island of Simeulu role perhaps it is this that drives the settlers, who generally come from the west coast of Aceh, Sumatra Utara and Sumatra Barat, can master this language, so they can use it as a language of daily communication.

This may be caused by the need to facilitate communication in the process of buying and selling. Accordingly the research project Language and Literature Indonesia and the region, in the province of Aceh has prioritized the study of other languages in Aceh. This language has begun studied since 1979/1980. Over the years it has worked on a study of language structure Simeulu. This study has recorded some of the things that is the general idea of Simeulu language.

These studies have noted a few things that a general idea of Simeulu language. The things that have been recorded, among others, about the position and function of language in society, the number of speakers, number and shape of phonemes, as well as some idea other

morphology and syntax that is commonly used by speakers.

Simeulu language because language is one area that is supporting the development of the national language, hence comparative studies concerning the dialect in two languages is expected to be as contribute to the development of the national language of Indonesia.

In the teaching of Indonesian in the interior of the island of Simeulu, the role of language Simeulu actually still felt quite important for teachers and students in primary schools. Language Simeulu still have a role as a language of instruction lesson there for the language in use as the dominant language of communication in the lives of everyday people.

Furthermore, this study will provide the data and in-depth information about the dialect comparison in the two languages in Simeulu that can be used by linguists as a comparison with the system prevailing in other languages in the archipelago in an attempt to construct a linguistic theory of languages of the archipelago.

West Simeulu t is one of local language in our country especially in Aceh,

where this language is divided at three groups. The first group which is spoken in center Aceh is called Simeulu dialect or Middle Simeulu dialect. The second which is spoken in eleven sub districts at West Simeulu. The third group which is spoken at one sub district in east Aceh is called West Simeulu dialect. Because the writer come from Simeulu, so the writer is speak Simeulu language. Besides the writer is able to speak two dialects of Simeulu language, there are Simeulu Barat and Simeulue Tengah dialect. So the writer chooses Simeulu Barat and Middle Simeulu to this research be found the different words but similar meaning in West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialect of Simeulu. So the writer want to introduce the difference word but similar meaning in West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu and how to pronunciation and the structure of the sentence in West Simeulu and Middle Simeulue dialect of Simeulu to all the people that want to know about Simeulu Barat and Middle Simeulu dialect.

West Simeulu language which is spoken in center Aceh and at eleven sub districts in West Simeulu. It mean the language is used us. This language also as a medium at elementary school for pupil of

standard one and two years, more ever the junior high school, it is also used in traditional parties and meeting. From the two group of dialects, there are different words but similar meaning. This causes border on other district and influence of language which brought by people from other place.

For example: Nibo, o (dibuang) West Simeulu dialect  
Niangkolan (dibuang) Middle Simeulu dialect  
Nida,u (diambil) West Simeulu dialect  
Niabek (diambil) Middle Simeulu dialect

From the example above, we can see the different word but similar meaning from the second dialects between West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects. The writer is interested in doing research about the different words but similar meaning in Simeulu dialect.

In general the west of Simeulu, there are some groups who are generally using the same language that is the language of West Simeulu however, slowly the population defecate move to other areas such as the Salang.

Continues to mention most western Simuelu move the stricken areas for regional expansion is Alafan districts. Even so they still have the same language. It's just that the

population began to creep into the area Salang central of Simeulu therefore they began to discuss the dominant language into the middle of Simeulu.

The opposite is also like that, people who reside in the districts central Simeulu itself at first also has the largest population. However they also began to separate and propagate other regions are now made several districts. Teupah Selatan, Teupah Timur, Teupah Barat, Middle Simeulue, Simeulue Cut, and Teluk Dalam. But the population has the same language there are only slight differences in dialect. However, they can communicate.

## 1. The Problem of Study

The statement of problem is the beginning activity of the research process and it is the most difficult. The problem leads the researcher to what he has to do as to answer her problem. In line with the statements written above, the problem of this research activity is as follows: "What are the differences between the dialects of west Simeulu and middle Simeulu?"

## 2. The Aim of Study

The aim of the study is very important in a study because it is as a guidance

for a researcher to find the data needed because by getting the data thus the research problems can be answered. Next, based on the problem of the study thus the aim of this study is to find out the differences between the dialects of west Simeulu and middle Simeulu.

### 3. The Scope of Study

In analyzing a language it usually involves some aspects of language as: and in conducting the research, the researcher needs to limit this study on linguistic aspects. They are syntax, phonology, morphology, and vocabulary. And this study will focus itself on discussion about differences word but similar meaning in West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects.

## B. Review of Literature

### 1. Dialect

A dialect (from the Greek word, *Dialektos*) is a variety of a language characteristic of a particular group of the language's speakers. The term is applied most often to regional speech pattern, but a dialect may also be defined by other factors, such as social class.

The term dialect (from the ancient Greek word *διάλεκτος* *diálektos*, "discourse", from *διά* *diá*, "through" *λέγω* *legō*, "I speak")

is used in two distinct ways. One usage, the more common among linguists, refers to a variety of a language that is a characteristic of a particular group of the language's speakers. The term is applied most often to regional speech patterns, but a dialect may also be defined by other factors, such as social class. A dialect that is associated with a particular social class can be termed a *sociolect*, a dialect that is associated with a particular ethnic group can be termed an *ethnolect*, and a regional dialect may be termed a *regiolect* or *topolect*. According to this definition, any variety of a language constitutes "a dialect", including any standard varieties. The other usage refers to a language that is socially subordinated to a regional or national standard language, often historically cognate to the standard, but not derived from it. In this sense, the standard language is not itself considered a dialect.

A dialect that is associated with a particular social class can be termed a *sociolect*. Other speech varieties include: Standard languages, which are standardized for public performance (for example, a written standard): slang: patois: pidgins or argots. The particular speech patterns used by an

individual are termed an idiolect. Such varieties of language can be distinguished not only by their vocabulary and grammar. But also by differences in phonology (including prosody). Because distinctions are limited to phonology, the term accent is often used instead of dialect (Doubleday, 2005).

## **2. Standard and Non-Standard Dialects**

Standard dialect (also known as a standardized dialect or “standard language”) is a dialect that is supported by institutions. Such intuitional support may include government recognition or designation ; presentation as being the “correct” from of a language in schools; published grammars, dictionaries, and textbooks that set forth a “correct” spoken and written form; and an extensive formal literature that employs that dialect(prose, poetry, non-fiction,). There may be multiple standard dialects associated with a language. For example, standard American English, Southern English, Standard British English, and Standard Indian English may all be said to be standard dialects of the English language.

A nonstandard dialect, like a standard dialect, has a complete vocabulary, grammar, and syntax, but is not the beneficiary of institutional support (Doubleday, 2005). A

nonstandard dialect, like a standard dialect, has a complete vocabulary, grammar, and syntax, but is usually not the beneficiary of institutional support. Examples of a nonstandard English dialect are Southern American English, Western Australian English and Scouse. The[Dialect Test was designed by Joseph Wright (linguist) Joseph Wright to compare different English dialects with each other.

Hudson (1990:44) says in Britain we may say that many people use a regional accent but standard dialect, and a select few use an RP accent with the same standard dialect. Great confusion result if the standard dialect, which is a matter of vocabulary, syntax and morphology, is referred to as ‘RP’.

## **3. “Dialect” or “language”**

There are no universally accepted criteria for distinguishing languages from dialects, although a number of paradigms exist, which sometimes contradictory result. The exact distinction is therefore a subjective one; dependent on the user’s frame of reference. Language varieties are often called dialects rather than languages:

- They are not (or not recognized as) literary languages,

- Because the speakers give language do not have a state of their own,
- Or because their language lacks prestige

The most common, and most purely linguistic, criterion is that of mutual intelligibility: two varieties are said to be dialects of the same language if being a speaker of one variety confers sufficient knowledge to understand and be understood by a speaker of the other; otherwise, they are said to be different languages. However, this definition becomes problematic in the case of dialect continua, in which it may be the case that Dialect B is mutually intelligible with both Dialect A and Dialect C but Dialects A and C are not mutually intelligible with each other. In this case the criterion of mutual intelligibility makes it impossible to decide whether A and C are dialects of the same language or not. Cases may also arise in which a speaker of Dialect X can understand a speaker of Dialect Y, but not vice versa; the mutual intelligibility criterion founders here as well.

Anthropological linguists define dialect as the specific form of language used by a speech community. In other words, the difference between language and dialect is the

difference between the abstract or general and the concrete and particular. From this perspective, no one speaks a “language”. Everyone speaks a dialect of a language. Those who identify a particular dialect as the “standard” or “proper” version of a language are in fact using these terms to express a social distinction. Haugen (1986:31) argues that the reason for the ambiguity, and the resulting confusion, is precisely the fact that “dialect” was borrowed from Greek, where the same ambiguity existed.

## **C. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY**

### **1. Population and Sample**

The population and sample of this research consisted all of the utterances of West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects. While, the sample of the study was taken from twenty adult informant who are the native speakers form the two dialects; West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects.

Next, the sample had been chosen from adults from of West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects who live in Simeulu. The writer chooses only part of West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu People, The writer chooses 10 people from West Simeulu and 10 people

from Middle Simeulu. They have known about the dialect's.

## **2. The Technique of Data Collection**

From this research, the writer had collected information needed to prove statement of problem. The data needed are collected through interview.

First, the writer met people who would be interviewed about the aim of this research, which was to found weather the differences about West Simeulu and Middle Simeuludialects. After that, the writer interviewed people from West Simeulu and Middle Simeulu dialects. After the writer had interviewed, so the writer made result from interviewed of this research.

## **3. The Data Analysis**

The data were analyzed by using the technique given in linguistic items. Linguistic item concern the theory of structure, and people will give different answers according to which theory they think to give the best view of language structure. Those

who accept same version of transformational generative linguistics. We shall see evidence that different linguistic item in the same language can be quite different social distributions (in terms of speakers and circumstance) and we may assume that it is, possible for the social distribution of a linguistic item to be unique. In fact it is much harder to demonstrate this than to show differences between selected items, since we should need to compare the item suspected of being unique with every other item in the same language, just to make sure that no other has the same distribution.

## **D. THE RESULT OF STUDY**

There are three kinds of affixes such as: prefix, infix, and suffix. The affixes consist of nine prefixes, two infixes, and three suffixes and they are as follows:

### **1. Prefix**

The presence of the prefixes are : (mu-), (ni-), (ma-), (ta-), (u-), (la-), (te-), (me), (fa)

**a. The Different Words****The Meaning**

West Simeulue : /muda'u	"you take"
Middle Simeulue : / muabek/	
West Simeulue : /mulongo/	"you heard"
Middle Simeulue: /muèngèl/	
West Simeulue : /mukheman/	"you make"
Middle Simeulue: /muadé'én/	
West Simeulue : /mu'ōé/	"you hand"
Middle Simeulue:/muradak/	
West Simeulue : /mufunde'e/	"you call"
Middle Simeulue: /muaongan/	

**b. The same words****The Meaning**

West Simeulu and middle Simeulu :

/mupakaè/	"you wear"
/mutalen/	"you put"
/mu'ila/	"you see"
/muléngkép/	"you shut"
/musesae/	"you wash"
/mubukha/	"you can"
/mu'iao/	"you go"
/mubakhaé/	"you wear"

**2. Infix**

West Simeulu

**The Meaning**

(um) :/umōmbō-mōmbō/	"fly"
:/langi-lumalangi/	"swimming"
:/ungkon-umungkon/	"stoop"
:/tumarak-tarak/	"shiver"
:/taōk-tumataōk/	"sit"

**3. Suffix****West Simeulu****The Meaning**

(e) :/alawa'e/	"increase"
:/tugè'e/	"cook"
:/ukhu'e/	"heat"
(fen) :/daufèn/	"get me"
:/funde'efen/	"call"
:/alawan fèn/	"dry in the sun"
:/talèn fèn/	"put"
:/ukhu'u fèn/	"heat"

	:/matilōpōngi/	“create tangled”
	:/manulalani/	“explain”
(pe)	:/mampè’ enalu/	“extend”
	:/manua’ e/	“release”

**Middle Simeulu**

(an)	:/ere’an/	“bed”
	:/antoroman/	“show”
	:/funènan/	“hide”
	:/manōntōngan/	“shed”
(le)	:/aifak le uwiè/	“Do not like it”
	:/tè’è le iè/	“not like it”

**The Meaning**

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