

**LANGUAGE SHIFT OF ANGKOLANESE FAMILIES
IN PADANGSIDIMPUAN**

MINDA MORA

Politeknik unggul LP3M

Email: mindamora1982@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

This research studies about language shift of Angkolanese families in Padangsidimpuan. The objectives of this research are: 1) to describe the factors influence Angkola language shift, 2) the pattern of the language shift, 3) the reasons of Angkolanese families shift into Indonesian language. Data were taken from Angkolanese families. The study employs qualitative research design with a single case study to gain an understanding on this study. The subjects were 10 Angkolanese families in Padangsidimpuan. The subjects were divided into two groups; (1) second generation (parents) and (2) third generation (children). The reason for dividing the subjects into two groups of generation is because language shift happen across the generation. The instruments used to gain data were questionnaire and interview. The data were analyzed by using data collection, data reduction, data display and data verification. The findings show that there are seven factors which influence Angkola language shift in the second and third generation, namely; bilingualism, economic factor, social factor, political factor, demographic factor, value and attitude factor, and lack of speaking competence. Analysis data clearly indicates that Angkola language shift occurs among the second and third generation of Angkolanese families in Padangsidimpuan. The status of Indonesian language as the official language and social success are the reasons for Angkolanese to shift into Indonesian language

Keywords: language shift, Angkola language, Angkolanese families

I. INTRODUCTION

People who live in a particular country or areas have their own native language in order to communicate with others. This native language is called vernacular language. As a matter of fact, vernaculars in Indonesia as native language face a challenge against the existence of Indonesia language and foreign language as well. Many vernaculars in Indonesia shift or even endangered. As it was informed in Kompas (2007: 11/ humaniora-726-bahasa-daerah-terancam.html) about 736 of 746 vernaculars in Indonesia are endangered.

Indonesia in a multilingual nation which may cause language shift potentially happens in vernaculars in Indonesia. Gunarwan in Muliono (2000: 60) found that Lampung language is shifted because of Indonesia language pressure as the official language. Siregar (1998: 1) also found that language shift happen in the youth generation bilingual in Medan. In Batak community, Saragih (2010) also states that Batak language in North Sumatera is on the third stage of extinction which is endangered staged. Batak language users who usually use Batakness in the family domain, now replace it with Indonesian language.

Angkola language is one of the vernaculars in Indonesia that is mainly used in Padangsidimpuan. Padangsidimpuan is a city in South Tapanuli district of North Sumatera which uses Angola language as the main language besides Indonesia language as the official language in their community. However, there is a tendency in Padangsidimpuan where the language is shifted into Indonesia language especially in the youth generation, in this case, children community. This phenomenon is increasing because the parents are bilingualism as the influenced of Indonesia language as the official language.

Besides the bilingualism, the shifting of Angkola language into Indonesia language could also be caused by the difference in social economic and political power. As what Edwards states in Hellinger & Pauwels (2007: 245) "Language decline is often a reflection of relative social inequality". Also he states that, "Language decline and shift are most often symptoms of contact between groups of unequal political and economic power". Moreover, according to Holmes (2001: 52-61), there are several factors that support language shift, one of them is social factor. Social factor is the environment where the people live.

The writer of this study finds it is important to conduct a study on Angkola language shift. She sees many of the parents in Padangsidempuan speak Indonesia to their children, especially the parents who have children under the age 15 years old. Angkola language should be maintained for three reasons. Firstly, perpetuating the vernacular in Indonesia is the mandate of Indonesia constitution, stated in UUD 1945, chapter XII and article 32; that the government respects and keeps maintaining vernaculars as the national culture. Secondly, the vernacular is the element of national culture. Thirdly, vernacular is also a source of language to contribute the vocabulary of Indonesia language.

II. RESEARCH METHODS

2.1. The Research Design

The writer conducted descriptive qualitative research design with a multiple case study. Case study is the research design that the writer used, as what Burns (1995:313) says that a case study is the preferred strategy when “how, why and what” questions are being asked.

2.2. The Subject of the Study

The subjects of the study are Angkolanese families who have lived in Padangsidimpuan for at least 10 years. The age of the subjects from the second generation is about 22 to 45 years old, whereas the age of third generation is about 8 to 20 years old.

2.3. The Instrument of Data Collection

The instrument of this study was the writer herself. The other instruments that are used in this study are questionnaire and interview.

2.4. The Technique of Data Collection

The writer collected the data by giving questionnaire and interviewing. First, the writer gave questionnaire which related to the factors influence Angkola language shift in order to answer the question of the problem study number 1 and 2. Second, the writer interviewed the subjects to gain the answer in the problem of study number 3.

2.5. The Technique of Data Analysis

In analyzing the data, the writer took two procedures. The data from the questionnaire was analyzed through these following steps:

- a. Data reduction
- b. Data display

- c. Verification and conclusion

While the data from interview through these following steps:

- a. Transcribe from tape recorder
- b. Classify the data
- c. Verify the language shift pattern
- d. Conclude the reason on Angkolanese shift into Indonesian

III. DATA ANALYSIS

3.1 Factors that Influence Angkola Language Shift in Padangsidempuan

After analyzed, there were seven factors which influence Angkola language shift in Padangsidempuan, namely bilingualism factor, economic factor, social factor, political factor, demographic factor, value and attitude factor and the lack of Angkola language speaking competence. While for the migration seems to not influence language shift in Padangsidempuan. This is due to the fact that most people in Padangsidempuan are the native residents.

- Bilingualism happens due to the existent of Indonesia language as the official language which is mostly used in formal places such as office, school and public places gradually breaks in the family domain.
- Economic factor is influenced by all the second generation of Angkolanese to shifting into Indonesian language since they assume that Indonesia language is necessary in their workplace and it plays an important role in their job but it is not influenced the third generation because they haven't work yet.
- There is 50% of second generation agree that Indonesia language make them easily to interact with the people surround them while all the subject in third generation agree that Indonesia language make them easily interact with the people surrounding.
- Indonesia language as the official language influences the using of Indonesia politically. When they are in public services such as hospital, government offices, department store require the using Indonesia language.

- There are three points of demographic factor that concern in this study, a) the frequency of language use, b) decreasing of speaking competence because of television, radio and internet, and c) intercultural marriage.
- Value and attitude on a language is crucial whether the language shifts or maintains. The second generation in Padangsidempuan still has a high value and attitude on Angkola language. However, the third generation has experienced a changed. They still have positive values but they have negative attitude on their loyalty of using Angkola language.
- The subjects in the third generation are more comfortable when they speak Indonesia since they are more fluently in speaking Indonesia rather than Angkola language.

3.2 The pattern of Angkola Language Shift

The pattern of language shift is seen through language use in the five domains. The domains are family, friendship, religion, education and workplace. The less domain the use of Angkola language in a domain, the more possibility of the Angkola language shift. Angkola language shift is signaled by no longer use of Angkola language in family domain.

There are two pattern of Angkola language shift in the second generation. Firstly, 70% of them speak alternatively Indonesia and Angkola language in the family domain and friendship domain. Secondly, about 30% of them no longer use Angkola language in those five domains. On the other hand, subjects of the third generation have shifted into Indonesia language because they become monolingual in Indonesia language. Almost all the third generation of Angkolanese in Padangsidempuan whose parents have intercultural marriage

experience Angkola language faster because they gradually no longer use Angkola language in those five domains and they are lack of Angkola language speaking competence.

3.3 The Data of Reason of Angkolaness Shift into Indonesia Language.

Data of the reason of Angkolaness shift into Indonesia language is taken from the interview with subjects both in the second and third generation. As the reason for the shift of Angkola language into Indonesia is presented in the table below.

Reason of the second generation of Angkolanese shift into Indonesia language

Language user	Reason of shifting the language	Percentage
Second generation	1. Status of Indonesia language	40%
	2. Social success	60%

Reason of the third generation of Angkolanese shift into Indonesia language

Language user	Reason of shifting the language	Percentage
Third generation	1. Status of Indonesia language	90%
	2. Social success	10%

IV. FINDINGS

Based on the data analysis, some research findings are specified below:

1. Bilingualism, economic factor, social factor, political factor, demographic factor are the significant factors which influence the second generation of Angkolanese in Padangsidempuan shift into Indonesia language. Unlike in the second generation, bilingualism and economic factors are not significant factors for the third generation which influence them to shift since most of the subjects on the third generation are monolinguals students.
2. There are two patterns of Angkola language shift in the second generation. Firstly, the second generation is bilinguals in five domains. Secondly, they no longer use Angkola language in those five domains although they still understand and fluently speak Angkola language. The pattern of Angkola language shift in the third generation is the subjects begin monolingual in Indonesia language five domains. They lack of speaking ability in Angkola language .
3. The Angkolaness shift into Indonesia because of the status of Indonesia language and social success.

V. CONCLUSIONS & SUGGESTIONS

5.1 Conclusions

1. In general, Angkola language shift in Padangsidempuan are influenced by bilingualism factor, economic factor, social factor, political factor, demographic factor, value and attitude factor and lack of Angkola language competence factor. There are a few different between the second and the third generation. The lack of Angkola language competence is not influence the second generation since they are bilinguals. On the hand, bilingualism and economic factors are not found as the influenced of language shift since they are monolinguals and students only.
2. The pattern of Angkola language shift happens through the shift of Angkola language into Indonesia language in the second and the third generation. The second generation alternatively speaks Indonesia language and Angkola language in the family domain and friendship domain but do not use Angkola language in religion, workplace and education domain. The pattern of Angkola language shift in the third generation is the subjects begin monolingual in Indonesia language in the five domains.
3. The reasons of the Angkola language shift are social success and the status of Indonesia language.

5.2 Suggestions

1. It is suggested that the third generation of Angkolanese people who inherited Angkola language from the second generation should learn and speak more Angkola language as their means of communication especially in family domain to keep maintaining Angkola language in Padangsidempuan

2. It is suggested that the local government and language center to apply a program of reversing Angkola language shift to keep maintaining Angkola language by including Angkola language as the subject at school.
3. It is suggested that the Angkolanese researchers should be more concerned with the research of Angkola language since it is still very rarely conducted.

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