VARIATIONS OF JAVANESE: PHONEME INTENSIFIERS IN EAST JAVANESE

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ABSTRACT:Intensifiers are commonly found in the form of adverbs, such as *very*, *so*, and *extremely* in English (Biber et al., 2002:209) or *sangat* and *sekali* in Indonesian. This present research is interested in investigating intensifiers in East Javanese. The data are taken from advertisement and *kethoprak* in KDS 8, a local radio in Malang, East Java, from December 24 until January 3rd, 2014. Results show that, besides appearing in the form of adverbs such as *pol*, *jan*, and *te(me)nan*, there are unique intensifiers found in spoken East Javanese. Such intensifiers are considered unique because they appear in the form of phoneme that is added to the adjectives being modified. This article also touches upon the idea that these phoneme intensifiers might suggest the current revolt in an East Javanese dialect. A generalization derived from the Javanese phoneme intensifiers will conclude this article.

KEYWORDS: phoneme, intensifiers, East Javanese

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