

The Typology of Plural Personal Pronouns in Papuan, Ambonese and Manado Malay: Malay varieties of Eastern Indonesian

Johnli H. Lumi, S.S.
Universitas Negeri Papua

Papuan Malay, Ambonese Malay, and Manado Malay are closely related languages spoken in distinct regions of Eastern Indonesia. Papuan Malay represents one of the variations of Malay functioning especially as a lingua franca among ethnics or tribes in the land of Papua. Ambonese Malay becomes a lingua franca in Ambon and its surroundings. Whereas, Manado Malay is the variety of Malay spoken in Manado and elsewhere in northern part of Sulawesi. Those are closely related languages but not mutually intelligible, owning their own characteristics particularly in typological aspects.

The paper is an attempt to investigate differences and similarities of plural personal pronouns on the basis of morpho-syntax features among those languages. According to Sawaki (2005), the relationship between these languages is apparent. These languages are categorized as SV/AVO languages, *kitong pi pasar* (PM), *katong pi pasar* (AM), *kitorang pi pasar* (MM).

Morphologically, these languages characterized by some interesting phenomena. Reduced forms in morphological and syntactical levels are common. Generally, personal pronouns take such a characterization. Serial verbs are common with dependent verbs precedes the independent counterparts as *ko mo pi makan ka* (PM), *ini beta mo kasi voor ose* (AM), *coba ngana pi pukul pa dia* (MM).

Personal pronouns in plural forms among these languages show that these three languages may have a relation diachronically. The languages occupy a basic set of 3 – independent plural personal pronouns.

Number	PM	Plural AM	MM
1	Tong/Kitong	Katong	Tong/Torang
2	Kam	Kamong/Kamorang	Ngoni
3	Dong	Dong	Dong/Dorang

These languages also exhibit abbreviated systems and make different distinction in making dual, trial, or more number associated to the person.

Interestingly, there is an exception in term of Noun Phrase (NP) constructed by Head Noun and Personal Pronouns, as exemplified in (1) through (3), where Papuan and Ambonese Malay allows this construction, while Manado Malay rejects the (3) construction.

- (1) Alex dong pu kakak mo kamari
- (2) Alex dong pung kakak mo kamari
- (3) Alex (dong*) pe kakak mo kamari

The study of personal pronouns basically features the morphosyntax characteristics of these languages. However, it also supports the semantic and pragmatic discourse of personal pronouns.

Key words: Plural Personal Pronouns, Papuan Malay, Ambonese Malay, Manado Malay

References

Sawaki, Y. (2005) *Languages and Linguistics in Papua*. UNIPA. Papua

Sawaki, Y. (2005) *Melayu Papua: Tong Pu Bahasa*. UNIPA. Papua

Warami, H. (2005) *Linguistika: Bentuk Partikel Bahasa Melayu Papua*. UNUD. Bali

