

## **Multi-stylistic language use in contemporary Indonesian media**

The Indonesian linguistic context has been described as diglossic or heteroglossic, due to the wide variety of lects and registers of Malay spoken in the country and the complex social relationships obtaining between them. These range from the formal language of Standard(ised) Indonesian to the various informal colloquial varieties of found among different social groups – whether defined in geographic or socio-economic terms, e.g. local Indonesian Malays such as Betawi Malay or Jakartan Indonesian, sociolects like *Gaul* youth language, or more broadly defined informal varieties resulting from processes of koineisation. But far from being strictly separated in terms of domains of use, in contemporary Indonesian usage elements characteristic of different varieties of the language regularly co-occur the same text. This paper looks at multi-stylistic, multi-register language use in contemporary Indonesian media. It examines the distribution of standard and colloquial elements in print media – in particular youth magazines and comics – in order to problematise the distinction between the contrasting varieties and at the same time exploring how their juxtaposition is utilised by writers to manipulate register, and express stance or alignment – both within the text and with their readerships.