

Lexicon Dialect Variations of Madurese in the Bangkalan and Sumenep Sociolinguistics Study

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ABSTRACT

This research investigates the lexical variations within the dialects of the Madurese language, with a specific focus on the Bangkalan and Sumenep regions. The study seeks to identify and analyze the ways in which lexical items diverge between these dialects, considering how geographic factors play a role in shaping these variations. Through a descriptive qualitative approach, the study employs a combination of observation, interviews, and field notes to gather comprehensive data. The findings demonstrate that although certain lexical items exhibit differences in form across the dialects, they largely retain the same meanings. These lexical variations are primarily attributed to the geographical separation between the regions, which has led to distinct developments in the Madurese lexicon over time. The research underscores the influence of geographic isolation on the evolution of language and provides a deeper understanding of the dynamic relationship between language and region.

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Lexicon Variations; Dialects; Madurese; Bangkalan; Sumenep

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1. Introduction

Language use in society is explored through the field of sociolinguistics. In its definition, sociolinguistics is a study that studies the relationship between language and society. This study is interested in how speech differs in different social contexts and identifies the way language is used and its social function in conveying meaning in communication. "Examining the way people use language in different social contexts provides a wealth of information about the way language works, as well as about the social relationships in a community and the way people convey and construct aspects of their social identity through their language." (Janet, 2013, p. 1; Prihandoko et al., 2019; Said et al., 2021; Ko et al., 2025; Aswad et al., 2019).

Because sociolinguistics is used in the social sphere, it certainly has diversity. Starting from culture, art, characteristics, and habits, and not forgetting the diversity of regional languages. In Indonesia itself, it can be said that the variety of regional languages is very large; according to Mendikbudristek, there are still around 718 regional languages. There are 13 major regional languages, including Madurese, which is included in the four largest regional language varieties. From a linguistic point of view, Madurese is divided into four main dialects, namely Sumenep, Sampang, Bangkalan, and Kangean dialects.

A dialect lexicon is a term that has two different meanings. Dialect itself means language variation. By definition, dialects are variations of language that differ according to users, certain regions, or certain social groups. Usually, the dialects used in each region have differences in pronunciation due to differences in regional origin and social status. According to Meyerhoff (2006, p. 11), dialect is a different pronunciation of a language by a speaker based on the region or country where the speaker speaks. Meanwhile, a lexicon is a collection of words that refers to the general dictionary of a language, which contains a narrower collection of words (Yaumi et al., 2024; Wicaksono et al., 2021; Karubaba et al., 2024; Youngsun et al., 2024; Andini, 2017). A lexicon is used in a language, profession, hobby, or certain group. The Dialect Lexicon examines how the pronunciation of speakers from a group varies according to regulations or regions, and then the researchers will note the differences in dialects taken from different pronunciations of words in the Bangkalan and Sumenep areas. Such as lexicons or words that are different but have the same meaning.

For previous research, which is research from Rochma & Andayani (2023), regarding their research entitled "The Dialect Status Of Madurese Geographical Dialect In Probolinggo-Bondowoso-Banyuwangi". In their research, examines

the lexical differences of Madurese dialects used in three regions in Indonesia: Probolinggo, Bondowoso, and Banyuwangi. The researchers found a total of 175 lexical differences in the dialects, including that the three regions showed different dialect statuses based on dialectometric calculations. Specifically, the findings show: - Probolinggo-Bondowoso: 107 glosses with a difference of 61.14% (different dialects); - Probolinggo-Banyuwangi: 162 glosses with a difference of 92.57% (different dialects). Bondowoso-Banyuwangi: 143 glosses with a difference of 81.71% (different dialects). In short, this study highlights the significant lexical diversity in Madurese across regions, which provides valuable knowledge contributions to linguistic studies in Indonesia.

And the second of the previous study that is from Usliani et al., (2023). Regarding their research entitled "Proses Morfologis Bahasa Madura Dialek Gili Ketapang Kecamatan Sumberasih Kabupaten Probolinggo". In this article focuses on the morphological process of the Madurese language in the Gili Ketapang dialect, especially in the Sumberasih District, Probolinggo Regency. In the Gili Ketapang dialect, this article identifies five prefixes (a-, e-, pe-, le-, and ke-), six suffixes (-nah, -ngah, -ah, -aghi, -ah, and -en), and seven confixes (e-eh, ke-nah, le-yah, e-ngah, a-ah, e-yeh, and e-ghi). This study aims to provide knowledge about the morphological and affixation processes in the Madurese language, especially in the Gili Ketapang dialect, by highlighting the importance of understanding these processes for effective communication.

For the last previous study in this research that is from Amanda (2022), entitled "*Perbandingan Leksikon Bahasa Jawa Dialek Gresik Dan Bahasa Jawa Dialek Lamongan.*" discusses the comparison of lexicon (vocabulary and word meaning) between two Javanese dialects: Gresik and Lamongan. This study reveals that the lexicon of the Gresik and Lamongan dialects shows minimal differences in terms of meaning and word form. The majority of the differences found are in word forms with the same meaning, and there are several examples of words with the same form but different meanings. The main purpose of this article is to provide insight into the comparison of the lexicon between Javanese dialects in Gresik and Lamongan. This study aims to contribute to the understanding of linguistic variation in Javanese by highlighting the similarities and differences in vocabulary and word meanings of these two dialects. This study aims to identify the differences in the lexicon of the differences in the lexicon of the Madurese language dialects between the Bangkalan and Sumenep areas and to explore the factors that contribute to these lexical variations.

2. Methodology

This study employs a descriptive qualitative approach. According to Cresswell, (1992:175), that state qualitative research is research that collects data themselves through the document. This research method was chosen because it aligns with the topic being studied by the researcher, which is the difference in lexicon. The researcher also considers that this study will employ interview techniques and note-taking techniques. Next, the data will be described and analyzed to naturally become the focus of the research. The focus of this study is to discuss the differences in lexical variations that have different forms but the same meaning. The data source was obtained from interviews with several native speakers who use the Madurese language in Bangkalan and Sumenep. The data in this research consists of the entire lexicon or words provided by the respondents to the researcher through direct interviews.

Data for this study will be collected through semi-structured interviews with respondents from the Bangkalan and Sumenep areas. This approach allows for flexibility in exploring the nuances of the lexicon variations while ensuring consistency in addressing the research objectives. The interview process will include the following steps, the first is participant selection, respondents will be selected using purposive sampling, focusing on native Madurese speakers who have lived in Bangkalan or Sumenep for at least ten years. The second is the interview format, a semi-structured format will be used, with a prepared set of open-ended questions to guide the conversation while allowing room for elaboration on relevant topics. The third is recording and note-taking, interviews will be audio-recorded using a digital recorder to ensure accurate data capture. In addition, field notes will be taken to document contextual observations, non-verbal cues, and any additional information shared by participants outside the main questions. The last is duration and setting, interviews will typically last between 30 to 60 minutes and will be conducted in a quiet and comfortable environment agreed upon by the participant, such as their home and a local community space.

3. Result and Discussion

After conducting more in-depth field observations, the researcher then concluded the results obtained during the observation. The researcher concluded and categorized two sub-problem formulations above. The first is to find lexicon words that have differences from the lexicon words but have the same meaning in the Bangkalan and Sumenep areas. The researcher found 14 words that fit the qualifications. Then the second, the factors that cause lexicon variations to occur in both areas, namely Bangkalan and Sumenep. The more concise results are as follows:

3.1 Different Lexicon Words with the Same Meaning

Different lexicon words with the same meaning, which is a word that is completely different but has the same meaning. Each region must have a different language or a different lexicon but has the same meaning even though it is still on the same island. Likewise In Madurese, this difference can be found between several regions, such as Bangkalan and Sumenep, two regions located on Madura Island. Each region has a distinctive vocabulary, although it has the same meaning. The researcher lists all types of word classes, such as nouns, verbs, and adjectives, and also gives meaning in easy-to-understand language so that readers are not confused and understand what is meant. The researcher lists significant Lexicon with the type of lexicon that is often used by speakers in social interactions in everyday life. The lexicon words obtained are as follows:

Table1. The lexicon words is often used by speakers

No.	Bangkalan Lexicon	Sumenep Lexicon	Meaning
1.	Atela'	Nangale	Melihat (Seeing)
2.	Deghu'	Laghuna	Besok (Tomorrow)
3.	Ajelen	Lomampa	Berjalan (Road)
4.	Tengate	Estete	Hati-Hati (Be Carefull)
5.	Kadi'	Mara	Suka (Like)
6.	Jia	Jeriya	Itu (That's)
7.	Ngera'	Nyegse'	Memotong (Cutting)
8.	Siang	Aben	Siang hari (Midday)
9.	Hedeh	Bekna	Kamu (You)
10.	Lok	Enjek	Mengetahui (Know)
11.	Todi'	Ladding	Pisau (Knife)
12.	Bukeng	Gending	Bodoh (Stupid)
13.	Are'k	Sade'	Celurit (Sickle)
14.	Denak	Mayyuh	Come on (Ayo)

The discussion of the research results above is as follows:

1) Based on the first table, the word "atela" is used in Bangkalan to express the act of seeing, while in Sumenep the word "nangale" is used. These two words are different phonologically and morphologically but have the same meaning, namely seeing. This phenomenon shows that each region develops different lexical forms as part of regional language variation. 2) Based on the second table, the word "Deghu" is used in Bangkalan, and for the Sumenep area, the word "Laghuna" is used. These two words are different phonologically and morphologically but have the same meaning, namely "tomorrow." 3) Based on the third table, the word "Ajelen" is used in Bangkalan, and for the Sumenep area, the word "Lomampa" is used. These two words are different phonologically and morphologically but have the same meaning, which means "road." 4) Based on the fourth table, it can be seen that the meaning of the lexicon "Tengate" in the Madurese language, Bangkalan dialect, and the lexicon "Estete" in the Madurese language, Sumenep dialect, have the same meaning, which means the word to be careful. 5) Based on the fifth table, it can be seen that the meaning of the lexicon "Kadi" in the Madurese language, Bangkalan dialect, and the lexicon "Mara" in the Madurese language, Sumenep dialect, have the same meaning which means "like."

6) Based on the sixth, it can be seen that the meaning of the Jia lexicon in the Madurese language in the Bangkalan dialect and the Jeriya lexicon in the Madurese language in the Sumenep dialect have the same meaning which means the word It. 7) Based on the seventh table, it can be seen that the meaning of the Ngera' lexicon in the Madurese language in the Bangkalan dialect and the Nyegse' lexicon in the Madurese language in the Sumenep dialect have the same meaning in Indonesian, namely Cutting. 8) Based on the eighth table, the words "siang" in Bangkalan and "aben" in Sumenep refer to midday. Although the lexical forms are different, both words are used to indicate the same meaning, namely noon. This difference illustrates the variation in language use based on region. 9) Based on the ninth table, to refer to the second-person singular pronoun, the Bangkalan community uses "hedeh," while in Sumenep the word used is "bekna." Both are used to refer to "you," although the forms are different. This confirms the existence of dialect differences that are influenced by social or geographical factors.

10) Based on the tenth table, the words "Lok" in Bangkalan and "enjek" in Sumenep both mean "no." This difference reflects the lexical choices that develop in each region. This word is very important in everyday communication, and although it has the same meaning, its use differs depending on the region of origin of the speaker. 11) A quite striking difference is seen in the words "todi" in Bangkalan and "ladding" in Sumenep, both of which refer to the same tool, namely a knife. This difference shows how words related to everyday objects can differ from one region to another, even though they refer to the same object. 12) In the twelfth table, the word "Bukeng" is used in Bangkalan, and for the Sumenep area, the word "Gendhing" is used. These two words are different phonologically and morphologically but have the same meaning, namely "Stupid." 13) The difference between the words "Are'k" in Bangkalan and "Sade" in Sumenep, both of which refer to the same tool, namely a sickle. These differences show how words related to everyday objects can differ from one region to another, even though they refer to the same object. 14) In the fourteenth table, the word "Denak" is used in Bangkalan, and for the Sumenep area, the word "Mayyuh" is used. These two words are different phonologically and morphologically but have the same meaning, namely "Come on"

3.2 The Factors Variation in the Madurese Dialect Lexicon in Bangkalan and Sumenep Regions

According to Nababan (1993; 13), language variations arise and occur because of different regions, different groups or conditions, and different years or eras. This can have a big influence on the differences in language variations that exist in each region on the same island. Several key factors contributing to this variation are based on sociolinguistics, geography, and historical influences. From Geographical Influence, the most significant factor causing variation in the lexicon between the Bangkalan and Sumenep dialects is geography. Bangkalan is located in the western part of Madura, closer to Java Island, while Sumenep is located in the eastern part of Madura. This geographical separation has historically limited interaction between the two regions, allowing linguistic differences to emerge and strengthen over time. The apparent isolation between the two regions encouraged the development of unique understandings as their inhabitants adapted their languages based on local communication needs and environmental factors.

Cultural and historical factors. The historical interactions and levels of external influence also play an important role. Bangkalan, which is closer to Java, has experienced more interaction with Javanese culture and language, which may have led to greater linguistic borrowing or influence from Javanese. In contrast, Sumenep became more sheltered and developed its linguistic characteristics with less outside influence, preserving certain ancient or traditional terms that may have changed or disappeared in Bangkalan.

Chaer (2002; 1) also explains that lexicon words in each region can also be different because they are influenced by the profession of each speaker group. In addition, education, economic conditions, and social interactions can also cause differences in lexicons in each region on the same island. Social Factors, another important factor is the social identity associated with dialect. Speakers from different regions may consciously or unconsciously emphasize the distinctiveness of their dialects as a way of asserting regional identity. In this context, the use of different lexicons in Bangkalan and Sumenep may be reinforced by the desire to maintain the linguistic identity and heritage of their respective regions.

Economic and Trade also contribute to lexicon variation. For example, Sumenep, with its proximity to the sea and strong maritime tradition, may have a vocabulary enriched with words related to fishing and shipping that is different from the vocabulary used in Bangkalan, which focuses more on agriculture. The economic specialization of each region shapes the understanding that people use in their daily lives. The last from language contact and bilingualism, in Bangkalan where contact with non-Madurese speakers (e.g., Javanese or Indonesian) is more common, bilingualism or the use of loanwords may be more common. This may result in the lexicon being more influenced by foreign languages compared to Sumenep, which may have experienced less such interaction, allowing it to retain more traditional Madurese understanding.

4. Conclusion

The research on dialect variations in the Madurese language lexicon between the Bangkalan and Sumenep regions reveals significant differences in vocabulary that reflect the unique cultural and historical contexts of each area. There are 14 different lexicon words with the same meaning. The study highlights how geographical, social, and economic factors, along with external influences—particularly from Javanese culture—shape the linguistic landscape of Madura. The distinct lexicon found in Bangkalan, influenced by these interactions, contrasts with the more traditional vocabulary preserved in Sumenep. Understanding these dialect differences is crucial for appreciating the rich linguistic diversity within the Madurese language and underscores the importance of preserving regional dialects in the face of external influences. Suggestions for future research include maximizing efforts to gather as much data as possible and allowing the focus of the research to encompass more than one area.

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