

A Morpho-phonemic Analysis on Sasak Affixation

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ABSTRACT

The current study analyses the morpho-phonemic in Sasak affixation especially in Ngeno-Ngene dialect. This study is a qualitative research in nature. The data were collected via field linguistic method using three techniques of data collection: observation, interview, and note-taking. The study used a qualitative research method to describe all morphophonemic process of affixation in Ngeno-Ngene dialect of Sasak language. The results of the study revealed that there are two affixes that undergo morphophonemic process, namely, prefix *be-*, *pe-*, *ng-*, *t-*, *me-* and simulfix *ke-an*. Prefix *be-* can cause epenthesis (additional *r*), prefix *pe-* causes epenthesis (additional *n* and *mi*) and assimilation (*k•n*), prefix *ng-* causes assimilation (*k•ŋ*), prefix *t-* causes epenthesis (additional *e*) and prefix *me-* causes assimilation (*p•m*). The simulfix *ke-an* in this dialect causes epenthesis in which there will be lexical addition '*r,m,n*' when the simulfix *ke-an* is used.

1. Introduction

Affixation is an integral part of a language that has been discussed widely in most of languages in the world including Sasak language. Sasak language is a local language spoken in Lombok, a part of West Nusa Tenggara province in Indonesia. Sasak language involves in a Western Malayo- Polynesian language which is closely related to Samawa and Balinese and sub-groups as a member of the Western – Malayo Polynesian ranch of Austronesian (Austin, 2004). It has been claimed to have six local dialects- *Menu-Meni* dialect, *Ngeno-Ngene* dialect, *Nggeto-Nggete* dialect, *Meriq-Meriqu* dialect, *Kuto-Kute* dialect, and *Meno-Mene* dialect (Mahyun, 2006).

Some studies on affixation have been conducted in particular dialects of Sasak language. A study on *Menu-Meni* dialect has been conducted by Sutarman (2017) entitled "Derivational and Inflectional affixation in *Menu-Meni* dialect of Sasak language". It found that *Menu-Meni* dialect has three affixes- prefix, suffix and confix. Fikri (2017) has conducted a research in *Ngeno-Ngene* dialect about verbal inflection and derivational process of Sasak language. Another research on affixation has also been conducted by Sukri (2015) under the title "[M-N] Derivational and inflectional affixes in Sasak language on *Kuto-Kute* dialect'. The articles above show that affixation has been explored intensively. This article, however, seeks to study another side of affixation particularly on the morpho-phonemic analysis.

A morpho-phonemic approach on the affixation in Sasak language has not been explored yet because it studies an interaction between morphology and phonology in affixation. The interaction between morphology and phonology on affixation may result in the vowel changes as in *knife* and *knives* in English. This study is conducted in *Ngeno-Ngene* dialect of Sasak language which is mostly spoken in east and west Lombok. The current study has two fold purposes; 1) to investigate types of Sasak affixation that undergo morpho-phonemic changes, and 2) to elaborate the phonemic changes on the affixation.

2. Literature Review

2.1 Affixation

An affix is defined as a bound morpheme that can only occur if attached to a word or stem (Hanafi, 2006). Akmajian (1976) says that affixes relate to the prefixes when they are attached to the beginning of another morpheme as in *re-write* and *re-think* and as suffixes when they are attached to the end of another word as in *modern-ize*, *equal-ize* and *standard-ize*. Another definition

comes from Ramlan (1985) who states that affix is a unit of bound grammatical that is an element of a word, it is neither a word nor a base word, and it has an ability to attach at other units to form word or a new base word.

Affix is divided into derivational and inflectional one. Derivational affixes can change the word class and its meaning. a word can derive from one of the three-word classes such as verb, adjective, noun, and return another. See examples below

Table 1. Derivational affixes

Verb	Noun	Adjective
Play	player	Playful
Teach	Teacher	Teachable
Love	Lover	Lovable

However, some negative affixes cannot change the word category although they can create nouns, adjective and verbs with the opposite meaning. For instance, negative prefix *un-* and *dis-* can be used to produce noun, adjective, or verb with opposite meaning. Consider the following negative prefixes

Belief	→unbelief
Interesting	→uninteresting
Interested	→uninterested
Clear	→unclear
Understand	→ misunderstand
Legal	→ illegal

Fromkin (1996) explains that there are some morphemes that add new meanings to an existing word which is called derivational morpheme. It causes a change in grammatical class of the word as in the followings;

Desire (V)	+ able	= desirable	(Adj)
Adore (V)	+ able	= adorable	(Adj)
Health (N)	+ ful	= healthful	(Adj)
Beauty (N)	+ful	= beautiful	(Adj)
Sing (N) + er		= singer (N)	
Quiet (Adv)	+ ly	= quietly	(Adv)

Contrastively, some other derivational morphemes cannot change the grammatical class of the word as in examples below

a + moral	= amoral (Adj)
super + human	= superhuman (N)
re + print	= reprint (V)
green + ish	= greenish (adj)
music + an	= musician (N)

On the other hand, inflectional morphemes do not cause any change on the syntactic category of a word. For instance, the change of verb which is caused by the tense does not change the verb category as in the followings

I study at school
 He **studies** at school
 He **studied** at school
 He has **studied** at school
 He is **studying** at school

The word "study" above undergoes inflectional suffixes which do not change the category of word. Thus, Yule (2014) states that the inflection does not change create new word category but show the grammatical function.

2.2 Morphological process

Katamba (2003) says that morphological process is the process in which the language speaker combines one morpheme with another in to create a word. Hockett (1958) adds that morphology includes the stock or segmental morpheme and the ways in which words are built out of them. the morphological process seen from the definition includes the affixation, modification and reduplication. There are two types of morphological process, namely, affixation and non –affixation (Nurhayati, 2015; Sutarman, 2020)

A. Affixation : internal change

Suppletion : complete change of form as in the examples below

Go + ed → went

Good + er → better

Good + est → best

A core vowel change as in examples below

Foot +es → feet

Tooth + es → teeth

Zero modification : there is no change as in the followings

Put + ed → put

Deer + es → deer

b. Non affixation

There are some morphological processes include in non affixation such as compounding, blending, borrowing, coinage, clipping, and backformation.

Compounding is to combine two words which yield new meaning as in blackboard. The word ‘ blackboard’ derive from two words ‘black’ and ‘board’. After combination, it has new meaning which relates to any board which has black color.

Borrowing relates to use of other languages in another language due to lack of term in that language. For instance, in English, there are some words that are borrowed from other languages as in bamboo (Chinese), Alcohol (Arabic), piano (Italia), yogurt (Turkish), boss (Dutch) and etc.

Coinage refers to the production of new word without undergoing word formation process. These words are often found in English as in Teflon, nylon, Kodak, flossy, aspirin, zipper, Kleenex, Xerox and etc.

Clipping relates to the word formation process which consists in the reduction of word to one of its part (Marchand, 1969). Clipping according to Arnold (1986) can be divided into four types- initial clipping, final clipping, medial clipping, and complex clipping. See examples below

Flu→influenza [initial clipping]

Fancy→ fantasy [medial clipping]

Gas→ gasoline [final clipping]

Cablegram→cable telegram [complex clipping]

Backformation refers to the process of creating new word by removing actual affixes as in *babysit* from *babysitter*, *bartend* from *bartender*, *bulldoze* from *bulldozer* and etc.

/a/ angen (felling)→Be {r} angen (desire/ miss)
 /i/ Isi (content)→ be { r} isi (content)
 /u/ utang (debt) → Be {r } utang (owe)
 /e/ entiq (hold)→ Be{r) entiq (holding) /o/ oat (medicine)→ Be {r } oat
 (take medicine)

The followings are examples of the words above in the sentence

Ndeqku taoq, sai jagene taoqne berangen

Not.1sg know who man.3sg place.3sg desire
 "I don't know whom he has feeling with"

- *Karongno berisi semen*
 Sack. That fill cement
 "that sack is full of cement"

Prefix *pe-*

The prefix *pe-* in this dialect can cause epenthesis. This prefix can add lexical 'n' and 'm'. Usually, the additional sound of 'n' occurs when the base or the word has initial letter 'j,d,and c. see below

/j/ jage (keep)→ pe {n} jage (keeper)
 /d/ dengah (hear)→pe {n} dengah (listener)
 /c/ copet (pick a pocket)→ pe {n} copet (thief)

See the following sentences

- *Ndeqne man bagus pendengahne*
 neg.3sg not good ear
 "he/she is deaf"

- *Pencopet no iye wah tebau siq polisi beruq*
 Pickpocket that he already arrest.pass by police just now
 "The pickpocket has been arrested by the police just now"

When the prefix *pe-* meets the word with initial letter *t*, the sound *t* will be deleted and changed by the sound *n*. This is called assimilation.

Taok (know)→ pe {t-----n}aok (knowledge)
 Tulong (help) → pe {t-----n}ulong (assistant)

See the followings

- *Mbe jaq engkah penaoqne, ampoqne macem bae ongkatne ngeraos*
 Where fut limit know.3sg, part.3sg dare part. sound.3sg talk
 "how smart he is, so he dares to talk as he wishes"

When the base is initiated by lexical 'b', lexical 'm' is inserted between prefix "be-" and the base. See the following examples

/b/ bace (read)→ pe {m} bace (reader)
 See sentence below

- *Ndeqne man tao jari pembace do'e*

Neg. 3sg yet can become reader prayer

"he has not become a good prayer yet"

Assimilation also occurs when the base is initiated by the letter s, the letter s will be changed to the nasal sound 'ŋ' as in the following example

/s/ sapu (broom) → pe {s----ŋ} apu (broom)

See the following sentence

- Mbe taoq **penyapu** no?
Where place broom that
"where is the broom?"

The prefix "pe-" can cause epenthesis when the base is initiated by the consonant "g" and vowel sound, the velar nasal sound 'ŋ' will be inserted in between the prefix and the base. See below

/g/ gitaq (see) → pe {ŋ} gitaq (watcher)

/a/ adang (resist) → pe {ŋ} adang (resistant)

/i/ iring (visit/ escort) → pe {ŋ} iring (follower)

/u/ ulat (plait) → pe {ŋ} ulat (craftsman)

/e/ entek (pull) → pe {ŋ} entek (someone who pull)

/o/ oloq (mock) → pe {ŋ} oloq (joker)

When the base is initiated by consonant "b,c, and l", the velar nasal sound plus vowel "e" will inserted in between the prefix and the base.

bom (boom) → Pe {nge} bom (boomer)

cet (paint) → Pe {nge} cet (someone who paint)

las (weld) → Pe {nge} las (someone who weld)

See the sentence below

- Ngumbe **penggitaq** meq
How see 1sg
"how is your sight?"
- Mbe taoq te mete **pengecet** siq bagus?
Where place 1pl search painter which good
"where do we find a good painter?"

Prefix ng-

The prefix *ng-* will cause the assimilation when the base is initiated by the latter 'k' as in the followings

keduk (dig) → {k--- ŋ} eduk (to dig)

kereq (rub) → {k--- ŋ} ereq (to rub)

kaken (eat) → {k--- ŋ} aken (to eat)

kerem (soak) → {k--- ŋ} erem (to soak)

kepak (slap/hit) → {k--- ŋ} epak (to slap)

See the following example

- Girang ne **ngepak** meje lamune sili, kepale sekolah no
Often 3sh hit table when angry headmaster that
"The headmaster often hit a table when he gets angry"
- Sai **ngerem** popoqan ne leq ember ne?
Who soak laundry this at pail this
"Who soaks the laundry in the pail"

Prefix t-

The prefix *t-* becomes passive marker in Sasak language and it can have vowel addition when the base is initiated by the consonant. The base with initial vowel has addition "t" while the consonant-initial base is added by the prefix "te". Example below shows that the base 'timpak' is initiated by consonant 't' and example 'empoh' is initiated by vowel 'e'.

timpak (smack down) → {te} timpak (be smacked)

empoh (call) → {t} empoh (be called)

- **Tempoh** ku ne siq sai jage beruq leq jurang no
Call.PASS.1sg this by whom recent at cliff that
"I have been called by anyone from the cliff"

Prefix me-

The prefix *me-* also causes the assimilation. In this case, the base initiated by consonant 'p' will change into the 'm' as in the following examples

polak (cut) → Me {m} olak (to cut)

paling (steal) → Me {m} aling (to steal)

pete (seek) → Me {m} ete (to seek)

pager (hedge) → Me {m} ager (to hedge)

pasek (pin) → Me {m} asek (to pin)

See the following examples

- Amangku kejangkene **memager** kebon no
Father.link.1sg.POSS doing fence garden that
"My father is fencing the garden"

Simulfix ke-an

The simulfix *ke-an* in this dialect can cause epenthesis as the result of morphological process of affixation. When the base is initiated by the vowels, there will be lexical and sound addition 'r'. See below

/a/ angkat (lift) → Ke {r} angkatan (lifted up)

/i/ icaq (trample) → Ke {r} ica'an (stepped on)

/u/ ulang (repeat) → ke {r} ulangan (repeated)

/e/ engat (see) → Ke {r} engatan (be seen)

/o/ opong (lift) → ke {r} opongan (barried)

See the examples below

- Iye **kerangkatan** seng ini siq lolon paoq no
3sg lifted up zinc this by tree mango that

"the zinc is lifted up by the mango tree"

- Ndeqne **kericaqan** isiqku tain manuk no?
Neg.3sg stepped on by.1sg dunk hen that

"the hen dunk is stepped on by me, isn't it?"

When the simulfix *ke-an* is used in the base initiated by the letter 'p' and 'b', there will be lexical addition 'm' as in the followings

panas (hot) → Ke {m} panas (to get hot)

penoq (full) → Ke {m} penoqan (too full)

besoh (full) → Ke {m} besohan (too full)

bait (take) → Ke {m} baitan (be taken)

beseng(narrow) → Ke {m} beseng (getting narrow)

See examples below

- Iye **kempanasan** leq dalem ampoqne sugul
3sg hot at in so.3sg out
"he feels hot so he gets out"
- Iye jaoq laloq taoqne, ndeqne bau **kembaitan** isiqku
3sg far too place.3sg neg can taken by.1sg
"it is too far so it cannot be reached"

When the simulfix *ke-an* is added to the base which is initiated by the letter 't' and 'd', the lexical addition 'n' as in the examples below:

dengah (listen) → Ke {n} dengahan (be heard)

taoq (know) → Ke {n} taoqan (known)

dait (find) → Ke {n} daitan (found)

tame (enter) → Ke {n} tamean (entered)

look at the examples below

- Ndeqne iniq **kendengahan** suaren radio ne
Neg.3sg can hear.PASS sound radio this
"The sound of radio cannot be heard"

5. Conclusion

This study aims at analyzing the morpho-phonemic process on affixation in *Ngeno-Ngene* dialect of Sasak language. The dialect has four types of affixations, namely, prefix, infix, suffix and simulfix. Prefix and simulfix are affixes that undergo morphophonemic changes when the affixation is added to the base. The morphophonemic process in prefix and simulfix result two types of phonemic changes: a) epenthesis and b) assimilation. Epenthesis occurs in the prefix 'be-' with lexical addition 'r', prefix 'pe-' with lexical addition 'n,m', prefix 't' with lexical addition 'e', and simulfix 'ke-an' with lexical addition 'r,m,n'. Meanwhile, assimilation happens also in the prefix 'pe-' with changes "t→ n, k→ ŋ", prefix "ng-" with changes "k→ŋ", and prefix "me-" with changes "p→ m". These epenthesis and assimilation have the rules as explained in the discussion above. For next researcher, the scope of this study is limited to the morphophonemic process of affixation in *Ngeno-Ngene* dialect so other researchers may explore the same aspect for other dialects of Sasak language as Sasak has six dialects to be objects of linguistic study.

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