



Development of Indonesian Language in Vocabulary Absorption

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Abstract: The purpose of this study is to analyze the process of Indonesian vocabulary development by describing the absorption of Indonesian from elements of foreign language absorption and regional languages as well as languages that develop in Indonesian society. Indonesian continues to develop through the process of vocabulary expansion which includes absorption from foreign languages, native languages, and also cognate languages. The data collection for this study was through the observation method with data recording techniques taken by taking representative samples of loan words originating from foreign languages. From the results of the study, foreign language loan vocabulary was obtained in KBBI which came from 4 foreign languages that were adopted into Indonesian. such as Arabic, English, Greek, and Italian. Loan words originating from native languages, namely Sanskrit, and cognate loan words originating from Malay, Arabic, and Javanese. From the analysis, it shows that language expansion enriches Indonesian vocabulary without losing its original cultural identity. This phenomenon also reflects the influence of globalization, local creativity, and historical relationships between cognate languages.

Keywords: *Absorption of Indonesian Vocabulary from foreign and regional languages*

INTRODUCTION

The absorption of Indonesian is the process of accepting and using words, phrases, or structures of other languages into Indonesian. Language absorption can occur in several ways, first the absorption of words or phrases from other languages into Indonesian without significant changes. Second the absorption of words or phrases from other languages into Indonesian with significant changes, such as changes in spelling or sentence structure. Third the absorption of words or phrases from other languages into Indonesian through language contact, such as through trade, travel, or communication.

The absorption of Indonesian language can occur from various languages such as absorption from English, many English words are absorbed into Indonesian, such as "telephone", "computer", and "internet". And also from Dutch has a significant influence on Indonesian, especially in the fields of law, government, and education besides the absorption of Indonesian language absorbs a lot from Arabic this language absorption has a significant influence on Indonesian, especially in the fields of religion and culture besides the absorption of Indonesian language also comes from Chinese this absorption has a significant influence on Indonesian, especially in the fields of trade and culture.

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There are several studies on the absorption of Indonesian such as research conducted by Aziz (2018) regarding the problem studied is that there are many vocabularies originating from foreign languages in Indonesia and whether it will then make Indonesian more advanced or vice versa. In addition, research conducted by Rahmaniah (2023) regarding the absorption of foreign languages towards changes in Indonesian. History has recorded that the Malay language (Indonesian) has absorbed a lot from foreign languages. Absorption elements in the form of phonemes, affixes, and words also enrich the vocabulary of the Indonesian language.

Language is a communication tool that continues to develop in accordance with the social, cultural, and economic dynamics of society. One form of language development is vocabulary expansion, namely the process by which language accepts, modifies, or creates new terms to meet communication needs. Sulaeman (2025:962). This vocabulary expansion can come from various elements, such as foreign languages, native languages, or cognate languages. This phenomenon is not only related to linguistic aspects, but also socio-cultural aspects, so it is relevant to be studied in the realm of sociolinguistics.

The expansion of languages originating from foreign languages generally occurs through cultural, economic and political contact, where a society receives new vocabulary or even previously unknown linguistic concepts. Agan. (2022:45). Examples of absorption of English words in the realm of technology and science. In contrast, expansion that originates from one's own language emphasizes more on exploration and creativity in utilizing existing language elements to create new terms or structures. This phenomenon is often found in the formation of new words through morphological processes, such as affixation, reduplication, and acronymization.

Foreign languages, such as English, are often the dominant source of vocabulary expansion due to globalization and technological advances. (Fauziah. 2023:345) The entry of foreign terms into

local languages is the result of inter-language contact supported by the economic and technological influence of the more dominant country. On the other hand, the expansion of vocabulary from one's own language reflects the language's ability to innovate and adapt to local needs Akhyar (2024:55) in the study of grammar and word formation. Apart from that, cognate languages, especially Malay, also contributed to the development of Indonesian through historical relationships and cultural closeness.

The development of the Indonesian language can be observed through the increasing number of vocabulary in the official dictionary. This growth reflects the dynamics of a multilingual society, such as Indonesian society, which naturally interacts with various other languages. According to Mutaharoh (2018:45) the movement of individuals due to social mobility, such as job transfers, inter-regional trade, or study outside the region, creates opportunities for language enrichment through vocabulary absorption and expansion of meaning.

Interaction with other languages not only enriches vocabulary but also influences changes in meaning in Indonesian. This mobility often causes expansion of meaning, namely the expansion of the meaning of certain words, but in some cases it can also result in a narrowing of meaning, depending on the context of its use. Sulaeman (2017:67) emphasizes that multilingual societies will experience linguistic changes along with increasing social and cultural contact, both directly and through the media.

The process of language expansion in Indonesia reflects the complex cultural interactions in society. Language develops not only due to external influences, but also through the revitalization of vocabulary from regional languages and related languages that also strengthen the identity of the national language. Based on the analysis, language expansion can be divided into three main categories, namely expansion with foreign language sources, expansion based on one's own language, and expansion with related language sources.

In sociolinguistic studies, language is not only seen as a means of communication, but also as a representation of social, cultural, and



historical developments. One interesting aspect is the expansion of language sources, namely the process of forming or enriching a language through adaptation or assimilation from various sources, including foreign languages, native languages, and cognate languages.

Language can be defined as sounds or voices that have meaning, produced by the human vocal tract, which are then used or established as a tool for communicating between individuals or groups. (Goziyah, 2022). This aims to be able to give birth to thoughts and stimulate feelings. With this understanding, it can be said that language has an important role in human life, because with it humans can convey information either directly through speech or writing.

However, the development of the current era has made many foreign languages start to enter society. These foreign languages enter through the flow of technology, culture, and even from the world of entertainment. In its development, the absorption of these foreign elements has a great influence on the expansion of Indonesian vocabulary (Meysita, 2018). Where currently there is a lot of use of slang in everyday communication. Slang is a form of language used by certain groups with special characteristics and is secret (Sulaeman, 2019). Slang is generally used by young people or teenagers. This language is created by playing with sounds or letters with processes such as adding, condensing or changing the position of sounds or using various words because they are formed into a new word (Khoirurrohman, 2020). In addition to the expansion of foreign languages, vocabulary is also found in the expansion of one's own language or regional language. The main source of language expansion itself usually comes from the creativity of the community in utilizing the potential of the local language. This process includes combining words, adding, changing meanings, or creating new terms that remain rooted in the identity of the original language vocabulary and strengthen the function of language as a means of communication.

The expansion of cognate languages is the process of language development that occurs through interaction between languages that come from the same language family. Cognate languages, such as Indonesian, Malay,

Javanese, and Minangkabau, have similarities in origin. The expansion of cognate languages occurs through various sources, both from social contact, culture, and external factors such as trade and globalization. This process results in the absorption and adaptation of words, terms, and expressions from cognate languages which then enrich the vocabulary and strengthen the relationship between the languages.

METHOD

The approach used in this study uses a qualitative approach. A qualitative approach is a descriptive analytical study, Sulaeman research (2018: 230) qualitative research is research conducted using an analytical method and has a descriptive nature, This research method uses a descriptive qualitative method, descriptive research is research with a method to describe a research result. As the name implies, Wahyudi (2014: 140) the type of descriptive research aims to provide a description, explanation, and validation of the phenomenon being studied, The source of this research data is by collecting loanwords from the language of Indonesian speakers, the data is in the form of foreign language loanwords in KBBI which come from 4 foreign languages that have been adopted into Indonesian. The data collection itself uses the listening method with the data recording technique taken by taking representative samples of loanwords from foreign languages such as Arabic, English, Chinese, Greek, and Italian. Loanwords that come from the language itself, namely, Sanskrit, and the language used by the Indonesian people, besides that, cognate loanwords come from Malay, Arabic, and Javanese

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The emergence of foreign loanwords into the Indonesian language cannot be separated from the historical process in the past. During the colonial period, various foreign nations entered out into Indonesia, leaving behind historical traces in the form of language that was later adapted by local communities into their own

language. The open nature of Indonesian has made it absorb many terms from foreign languages as well as regional languages in Indonesia itself.

1. Expansion of Foreign Language Resources

The expansion of Indonesian vocabulary from foreign languages, especially English, is one of the most common ways to deal with the development of the times, especially in the era of globalization. Many foreign terms are adopted into Indonesian due to the development of technology, science, and popular culture. For example, the word startup is maintained without change because it represents a new and difficult to translate digital business concept. There are also words such as gadget, internet, and influencer that are used daily by students, showing that foreign languages are often adopted because they are considered more practical and follow global trends.

However, not all foreign words are taken raw. Many terms are adapted to Indonesian language rules, such as application from application, or system from system. This adaptation process is important to keep Indonesian easy to understand for all groups, including those who are less familiar with

foreign terms. In student circles, words like download are often replaced with *download*, showing that loanwords not only add richness to the language but also provide options according to the context of their use.

Overall, the expansion of vocabulary from foreign languages helps Indonesian remain relevant to global developments, especially in the world of education and technology that students often access. However, this process still needs to be balanced with efforts to preserve local elements so that the identity of the Indonesian language is not completely displaced.

This opinion is in accordance with Fauziah's research (2000) that foreign languages occur when a language adopts elements from another language, whether in the form of vocabulary, technical terms, or grammatical patterns. This phenomenon is often influenced by globalization, trade relations, international education, and technological advances. This process enriches the treasury of a language, as well as being evidence of the ever-growing cross-cultural relationship.

Table 1
Expansion of Foreign Language Resources

| loan words | Original Words | Origin |
|-------------------|--|------------------|
| Internet | Combination of the words Inter and Net | Italian language |
| Editor | Editor | English |
| Bank | Banca/banque | Italian language |
| Television | Tele visio | Greek |
| Sujud | Sajdah | Arabic |

The word internet comes from Latin, which is a combination of the words "inter" which means "between" and "net" which is an abbreviation of network. Untara (2018) In the Big Indonesian Dictionary (KBBI), the internet

is defined as an electronic communication network that connects computer networks around the world via telephone or satellite. The absorption of this word does not experience a change in word structure, but its adoption

shows its suitability to the needs of modern communication and technology that are developing in Indonesian society. This word shows the influence of globalization and technological advances on the development of the Indonesian language.

The word editor is adopted from English without any changes in the word structure. In KBBI, an editor is defined as a person who edits writing for publication or as computer program that functions to create or change files. This absorption reflects the adaptation of Indonesian to foreign terms related to the world of literacy and technology. The use of this word is increasingly common along with the development of media and increasing digital needs.

The word bank comes from the Italian word *banque* or *banca*, which means "a bench for exchanging money". In KBBI (2018), a bank is defined as a business entity in the financial sector that provides credit and payment services. The absorption of this word shows the influence of globalization and the development of the modern economic system in Indonesia.

The word television is a combination of the words "tele" meaning "far" in Greek and "visio" meaning "vision" in Latin. In KBBI (2018), television is defined as a system for broadcasting images and sound or a device for receiving broadcasts. The adoption of this word shows the influence of foreign culture and technology on the Indonesian language. The adoption of this word strengthens the development of communication technology in Indonesia while also showing the flexibility of the Indonesian language in accepting new terms originating from science.

The word *sujud* comes from Arabic and in KBBI (2018) is defined as the act of kneeling and placing the forehead on the floor, for example in prayer. The absorption of this word shows the influence of Islam on Indonesian vocabulary. The word *sujud* does not change its form because it is in accordance with the rules of Indonesian phonology and the meaning contained in it remains relevant to the culture of society.

Expansion of Own Language Resources

The expansion of vocabulary from one's own language is one way for Indonesian to continue to develop without having to take terms from foreign languages. Usually, this new vocabulary appears by creating new words, giving new meanings to old words, or combining existing words. For example, the words *upload* and *download*. These words are used to replace the terms *upload* and *download*. The process is simple but still in accordance with Indonesian language rules, and more importantly, it feels more "very Indonesian."

There are also the words *luring* (offline) and *online* (online), which are used to replace offline and online. These words came from the idea of the Language Agency, and in fact are easy for people to remember because they fit perfectly with the way Indonesians speak. Another example is the word *swafoto* to replace *selfie*. Although it sounds a bit stiff at first, people gradually get used to it. This word also proves that the Indonesian language can keep up with the times without losing its local characteristics.

In addition, there are terms like *social networks* for social networks. With terms like this, Indonesian looks more modern, but still has a unique style. The point is, this process is not just about making the language cool, but also maintaining the nation's cultural identity. If it continues to be supported, Indonesian will continue to develop, be relevant, and remain cool in the modern era.

In addition to external influences, language also develops internally through the creation of new vocabulary, adaptation of old meanings, and the refinement of grammar according to the needs of the community of speakers. The expansion of language sources itself reflects creativity and efforts to maintain the authenticity of cultural identity. This phenomenon often appears in response to technological developments, social change, and local culture.

Table 2

Expansion of Own Language Resources

| loan words | Origin | Meaning |
|-------------|---------------------|--|
| Bumi | Sangskerta language | The place where humans live, the planet where living creatures live. |
| Swafoto | English Language | A self-portrait taken by yourself using a mobile phone camera or digital camera. |
| Kaki Gunung | Indonesian | Lower mountain slope |
| Buah Tangan | Indonesian | The results of work or goods brought from traveling are often called souvenirs. |
| Kaki Lima | Indonesian | Traders who sell on the front porch (veranda) of the shop or on the floor at the side of the road. |

The word earth refers to the planet where humans and other living things live. In Sanskrit, "earth" has a broader meaning, referring to the earth as a universe or a place of life. In Indonesian, the meaning is more specific, referring to the planet where human life and other living things thrive.

The word selfie comes from the English language. In KBBI (2018), selfie means taking a photo of yourself using a cellphone camera or digital camera. The use of this word indicates the expansion of language that adapts to new technologies that are developing in the global world. In Indonesian, "swafoto" is an example of the absorption of a foreign word that is directly adapted to describe a new phenomenon in visual culture.

The word kaki gunung in Indonesian refers to the area on the lower slopes of a mountain. In KBBI the word "kaki" describes the base or lowest part of something, in this case a mountain. This word expansion shows how Indonesian uses metaphors related to geography to describe certain locations.

The word buah tangan has a meaning in KBBI as an item brought home after traveling, which is often used as a souvenir. In this case, the expansion of the Indonesian language creates an expression that is rich in meaning

and reflects the social custom of giving gifts as a form of attention to the person left behind.

The word kaki lima refers to traders who sell on the side of the road or on the veranda of a shop. "Kaki" here also refers to something on the bottom like a human foot and "lima" describes the distance or place outside the building. The expansion of this word reflects how the Indonesian language captures the dynamics of urban life, especially the phenomenon of trade.

Expansion of Similar Language Sources

Indonesian language develops in line with the development of the times, culture, science, and technology. In addition, geographical factors that cover the territory of Indonesia with various regional languages also influence the expansion of Indonesian vocabulary. One source of this expansion is cognate languages, namely regional languages in Indonesia that are closely related to Indonesian. Cognate languages such as regional Malay, Sundanese, or Minangkabau have made significant contributions to enriching Indonesian vocabulary. These words are often adopted because they are in accordance with the culture, context, and communication needs of the Indonesian people

Table 3
Absorption From Similar Languages

| loan words | Original Words | Origin of Language | Meaning |
|------------|----------------|----------------------|---|
| Pesan | Pason | Sundanese language | Request for do something |
| Sanak | Sanak | Minangkabau language | Relatives or Siblings |
| Asri | Aseri | Malay language | Beautiful and Comfortable |
| Sawah | Sawah | Javanese language | Agricultural Land for Planting rice |
| Kendang | Kendang | Javanese language | Traditional musical instruments drum-shaped |

The expansion of Indonesian vocabulary through cognate languages is one way for Indonesian to develop while maintaining the cultural roots of the archipelago. Cognate languages, such as Malay, Javanese, Minangkabau, and other regional languages, often inspire the creation or adaptation of new vocabulary. This process not only enriches vocabulary but also strengthens the sense of cultural brotherhood in the region.

For example, the word *gawai* which comes from Malay is used as a substitute for the term *gadget*. This word is often used in the context of technology to refer to modern electronic devices. In addition, the word *nukilan* from Malay which means "quote" has also begun to be used in academic circles to soften foreign terms such as *quote*. This adoption process shows that Indonesian can still develop vocabulary without always having to rely on absorption from foreign languages.

In the context of regional languages, many terms have also been adapted into Indonesian. For example, the word *tutur*, which comes from Javanese, is used to describe a polite or ethical way of speaking. This word now often appears in cultural contexts, such as *tutur kata* or *tutur adat* (traditional speech). The same thing happens with the word *karsa* (desire/will) which is taken from Old Javanese and is now

often used in formal discussions, especially in the fields of education and philosophy.

For students, understanding the process of vocabulary expansion is important because it shows how Indonesian maintains a balance between maintaining local values and facing global challenges. In addition, by using terms from related languages, students also contribute to preserving the richness of culture and regional languages in Indonesia. This process is proof that vocabulary expansion is not only about linguistics, but also about identity and pride as a nation.

A cognate language refers to a group of languages that are related because they originate from the same language or have the same roots in the history of linguistic development. This group of languages can usually be found in geographically adjacent areas, and have similarities in grammatical structure, vocabulary, and phonology. In the world, there are many examples of cognate languages, one of which is the languages included in the Austronesian language family, such as Indonesian, Malay, Javanese, and Arabic

CONCLUSION

The process of vocabulary expansion in Indonesian through absorption from foreign languages, local languages, and related languages shows the dynamics of language adaptation in facing changing times. Loan words such as "internet" and "editor" reflect the influence of globalization, while words such as "swafoto" and "hadiah tangan" show local creativity. Meanwhile, words from related languages such as "adat" and "batik" describe the cultural richness that is a shared identity. This vocabulary expansion not only enriches the Indonesian language, but also strengthens its relevance as a modern communication tool and cultural heritage. In addition, Indonesian loanwords function communicatively, namely language absorption can fill gaps in the Indonesian language, especially in the fields of science and technology. Language absorption can improve communication between people with different languages and cultures, in addition, language absorption can develop Indonesian culture, especially in the fields of art and literature, and language absorption can promote Indonesian culture to the international community.

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