



Continuity of Tetun and Meto Languages in Mutual Cooperation: Sociolinguistic Studies in East Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia

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<http://dx.doi.org/10.18415/ijmmu.v10i8.5149>

Abstract

The Biboki Anleu region has two regional languages, namely Tetun and Meto. Public attention regarding the extinction of the Tetun and Meto languages in the cooperation activities of the Biboki Anleu community which is facing the challenges of globalization is increasing. The aim is to analyze the realm of the use of the Tetun and Meto languages in the cooperation activities of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community. The approach used in this study is qualitative. Data collection was carried out in the form of participant observation, recordings, and in-depth interviews. Next, the conversation data was transcribed into written language and then translated into Indonesian literally and freely. Data were analyzed using Miles and Huberman's theory. There are three stages in data analysis, namely: reduction, presentation, and verification or conclusion. Checking the validity of the data through internal validity testing and triangulation. The findings, apart from the three factors according to Fishman such as participants, topic, and location, were also found to be several factors that influenced the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in the Biboki Anleu community, such as factors preserving culture, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, unity, social, and age factors. The Tetun and Meto languages chosen by the Biboki Anleu community indicate social relations, cultural symbols, and unifying ethnic groups. such as factors preserving culture, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, social unity, and age factors. The Tetun and Meto languages chosen by the Biboki Anleu community indicate social relations, cultural symbols, and unifying ethnic groups. such as factors preserving culture, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, social unity, and age factors. The Tetun and Meto languages chosen by the Biboki Anleu community indicate social relations, cultural symbols, and unifying ethnic groups.

Keywords: *The Realm of Language Use; Tetun and Meto or Dawan Languages; Cooperation Activities*

Introduction

The Biboki Anleu community has two regional languages, namely Tetun and Meto. All activities, including cooperation activities of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community, always use both regional languages well. This research highlights the continuity of the Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in the Biboki Anleu community in particular and the East Nusa Tenggara community in general. There are phenomena or elements in society that influence the social and cultural life of that society.

These elements are carefully considered, one of which is to preserve the Tetun and Meto languages so that they continue to live and develop in the Biboki Anleu area.

The development of research on language maintenance and the domain of language use has been the main focus of researchers over the last few decades. Previous research has revealed how important it is to maintain the continuity of languages and oral traditions throughout the world. Researchers have introduced various strategies to promote language maintenance, such as the development of bilingual education programs, documentation of oral traditions, and language awareness campaigns. These efforts have helped protect many languages and cultural heritage that were previously threatened with extinction. These research developments have paved the way for concrete steps that can be taken to ensure the survival of existing diverse languages.

Research that has been carried out related to language maintenance, language choice, and the domain of language use has been carried out by researchers, among others, (Otheguy et al., 2015, p. 281), (Gururangan et al., 2020), (Ziser & Reichart, 2018), (Stickland et al., 2021) (Dejanović et al., 2017). Looking at some of the research results above, it is very closely related to language choice, language maintenance, and the realm of language use, with the situation of multi-ethnic communities such as the Biboki Anleu multi-ethnic community, especially in cooperation activities. Multiethnic societies are usually faced with complex language selection challenges, especially in daily interactions. In cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu, which involve various ethnic groups such as those who speak Meto and Tetun, the choice of language becomes an important aspect in the social interaction of the local community

Previous studies, as already mentioned, can provide valuable insight into how the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community maintains Tetun and Meto languages and how speakers choose which language to use in certain social events. These studies can provide a useful framework for understanding the dynamics of language choice in mutual aid activities in Biboki Anleu. In addition, the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community was able to maintain its Meto and Tetun languages. Research on the maintenance, use, and shift of the Tetun and Meto languages has also been carried out by Maria et al., (2020), Benu (2019), Ate & Lawa (2022), Jayanti (2022), AndNesi et al. (2019).

In addition, the previous research that has been mentioned opens up valuable horizons regarding the selection, maintenance, and use of Tetun and Meto languages in various social contexts in Biboki Anleu, but to date, there has been no specific research that explores these aspects in cooperation activities. cooperation in the Biboki Anleu region. Mutual aid activities play an important role in the life of the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu and are the center of rich social interaction. Therefore, further understanding of how Tetun and Meto languages are used and maintained in cooperation events provides a more complete understanding of language dynamics in local multiethnic communities. Therefore,

The novelty in the results of this research is the understanding of the choice of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu. The first finding shows that it is not only a means of communication, but functions to unite various strong social and cultural aspects in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu society which consists of various ethnicities. This existence changes people's views about the function of language in the daily activities of multiethnic communities. Second, factors such as intimacy or familiarity, social norms, cultural factors, and social factors play a major role in language choice by expanding new components in understanding the complexity of multilingual communication in a multicultural environment. Third, it was found that the Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages were consistently chosen to indicate cultural harmony in the multi-ethnic community of Biboki Anleu. This situation shows the urgency of culture in language choice in daily activities.

Literature Review

Language selection and the domain of language use are important aspects of sociolinguistic studies that have attracted the attention of researchers in the last few decades. This phenomenon reflects the complexity of the relationship between language, individuals, and society in increasingly multilingual contexts throughout the world. The theoretical study of language choice and the domain of language use not only provides an in-depth understanding of individuals and social groups making decisions about the language to be used in various communication situations but also opens the door for other research to uncover the social, cultural and identity dynamics related to language use.

According to Barang Ricardo (2015: 1) Many types of linguistic variations have developed, but speakers are free to choose language according to situations and conditions. It can also be said to be a language choice between two languages used in everyday life. The decision is up to each individual and is based on their rationality. Myers-Scotton opinion (in Otsuji & Pennycook, 2010) is that Switching a language is something that is usually found in communication events using two languages by the speaker or vice versa, adjusted to the situation or circumstances in which the communication takes place.

Myers-Scotton's ideas are related to the selection, maintenance, and use of the Tetun and Meto languages in the multiethnic community in Biboki Anleu. There are several basic reasons, namely:

- a) Speakers often choose language that suits the situation or atmosphere of communication. Thus, the multiethnic community in Biboki Anleu chooses between Tetun and Meto depending on the communication situation. The multiethnic Biboki Anleu community uses the low variety of Tetun and Meto in family communication, etc. adapted to casual or non-official situations, while the high or formal variety of Meto is used in official or formal situations or settings. Such as takanab speech ceremonies when picking up officials from sub-districts or districts, and traditional speeches in other traditional ritual ceremonies.
- b) The multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu faces challenges in maintaining its Tetun and Meto languages. In situations like this, language choice is one way to maintain and encourage the use of Tetun and Meto languages in everyday life. The use of Tetun and Meto languages by the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community in various events, so that these languages will survive and be preserved for future generations.
- c) The multiethnic Biboki Anleu community uses Tetun and Meto languages according to the domain of use. For example, the low variety of Tetun and Meto are used in non-official or casual situations while the high variety of Meto is used in traditional ceremonies or other official ceremonies. Choosing a language in the appropriate domain of use can strengthen the role of each language in everyday life. Myers-Scotton's ideas above regarding language transition and language choice in communication are relevant or related to the events of selection, maintenance, and use of the Tetun and Meto languages in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community.

Language barriers or language disconnection are usually related to language choice and language mastery to support daily activities or activities. (Kurhila et al., 2021, p. 19). This language barrier arises in the choice of language used in conversation and a person has sufficient language skills to carry out daily tasks or activities. In other words, people often face language problems in everyday life, either in terms of choosing the right language to communicate or in terms of having sufficient language skills to perform activities or activities well. The issue of language choice can affect a person's interactions and daily life and needs to be discussed or paid attention to to ensure smooth communication and carrying out daily routines.

Choosing inappropriate language can affect the image and quality of work at a place (Mis & Muhammad Situl, 2022, p. 213). Choosing inappropriate language can affect the image and quality of work in a place. This can also be applied in this research regarding the choice of Tetun and Meto

languages in multiethnic community cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu. Choosing the right language in cooperation activities and daily interactions with multiethnic communities is important because it can influence perceptions, inter-ethnic relations, and work effectiveness in collaboration.

In this research, choosing the right language between Tetun and Meto has a significant impact. For example, if an barrier or misunderstanding occurs in language selection when interacting with members of a multiethnic society, several things will arise, namely:

First, choosing an inappropriate language can give the impression that the interacting party does not respect or understand other ethnic cultures or languages. Second, choosing an inappropriate language can also create barriers in communication and trigger inter-ethnic tensions in the Biboki Anleu community. Third, choosing the wrong language can hinder understanding and coordination in cooperation activities. Thus, it can have an impact on the effectiveness of cooperation and the results of these activities. In this research, it can be explained how the choice of Tetun and Meto languages can influence the image, inter-ethnic relations, and the effectiveness of cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu. The three points above illustrates the importance of choosing language wisely and identifying ways to improve inter-ethnic understanding and cooperation in various communication events. Selection of language wisely and efforts to provide awareness to the user community regarding the importance of preserving language as a central aspect of culture and community (Tihurua & Shin, 2022, p. 73).

Opinion (Dewaele & Nakano, 2013, p. 107) Does a person's personality change when switching from one language to another? The opinion above states that a person experiences changes in behavior or personality when switching from one language to another. These changes include the way a person speaks or interacts or even the feelings and emotions experienced when using a different language. Some people feel more confident, more formal, more relaxed, or even more polite when speaking a certain language. Thus, language changes can influence how a person feels or behaves in different communication situations. Idea Mauk, et al. (2022, p. 39) Differences in the choice of language variations do not change the meaning of the words used, or in other words, the use of different words but have the same meaning. In cooperation activities in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community, differences in the choice of language variations, including Tetun and Meto, do not change the meaning of the words used. In other words, the use of words that differ but have the same meaning facilitates effective understanding and coordination between community members who come from diverse ethnic backgrounds when working together in cooperation activities.

Mauk, et al.'s opinion. (2023, p. 499) emphasizes the importance of language maintenance efforts to preserve linguistic and cultural diversity within language-speaking community groups. According to Lim (Zulkipli, 2021, pp. 156–157), The choice of language in question refers to the choice of language used by a person for a particular purpose or function in oral communication events. Fishman (in Shin et al., 2018, pp. 68–69) in 1971, conducted observations and collected data for approximately one year on Puerto Rican people living in New York City by paying attention to the factors that influence language choices in society. Fishman categorizes five realms or domains that influence language choice, namely family, friendship, religion, education, and work, including cooperation. Each domain is enforced based on factors such as participants, place, and relevant conversation topics.

In this research the author focuses on the domain or choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in the multi-ethnic community of Biboki Anleu. In cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, the choice of language can be influenced by the following factors: Ethnicity and Culture: in cooperation activities, each actor from various ethnic backgrounds is involved. Thus, the choice of language will usually depend on the ethnicity of each participant. People will use Tetun and Meto if they are more synonymous with Timorese ethnicity. Comfort of Communication: comfort and ease of communication factors are also very influential in language choice. People will tend to use the language that is mastered and most commonly understood by the majority of

local people. This concept helps in effective communication during cooperation activities. Purpose of Activity: the purpose of cooperation activities also influences the choice of language. These activities have certain goals, and language related to these goals is often used. For example, if the mutual aid activity is related to agricultural activities, language appropriate to the activity will be used. Inclusion and Harmony: to maintain an inclusive and harmonious atmosphere during cooperation activities. Therefore, the choice of language also promotes the people involved without making anyone feel excluded. The use of a mixed language or the language most commonly understood by everyone in the cooperation activities in question. Local Context: The local context and culture of the Biboki Anleu community will also influence the choice of language. Some gotong-royong activities have certain traditions associated with the Tetun and Meto languages and will be a factor to consider in language selection. Thus, in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, the choice of language will be greatly influenced by the ethnicity of the people involved, communication comfort, activity goals, inclusion, and local cultural context. Understanding these factors can help maintain cultural diversity and carryout cooperation activities effectively and harmoniously. In cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, the choice of language will be greatly influenced by the ethnicity of the people involved, communication comfort, activity goals, inclusion, and local cultural context. Understanding these factors can help maintain cultural diversity and carryout cooperation activities effectively and harmoniously. In cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, the choice of language will be greatly influenced by the ethnicity of the people involved, communication comfort, activity goals, inclusion, and local cultural context. Understanding these factors can help maintain cultural diversity and carryout cooperation activities effectively and harmoniously.

Several factors have been explained previously, but the author still follows or refers to the theory proposed by Fishman regarding the factors that influence language choice in cooperation activities. Fishman's theory identifies three important factors that influence language choice, namely who is speaking (participants), the conversation taking place (place), and what is being discussed (topic). In other words, the author admits that Fishman's theory about these factors is still relevant to this research.

The author uses the theory proposed by Fishman regarding factors that influence language choice in cooperation conversations for several reasons:

- a) Fishman's theory of factors influencing language choice has proven relevant to linguistic and sociolinguistic research. Therefore, the author considers this theory to provide a good understanding of the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities.
- b) In scientific research, it is important to build a strong theoretical foundation. By referring to established theories such as Fishman's theory, the author can provide a strong basis for explaining why factors such as participants, place, and topic are important in language choice in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu as speakers of Tetun and Meto.
- c) By referring to Fishman's theory, the author can build a stronger argument and provide a deeper understanding of how language choice operates in Tetun and Meto-speaking communities.

Methods

This research uses a qualitative descriptive method to analyze the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community in cooperative activities. The focus of the research is to discover the realm of Tetun and Meto language use in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu. The author is guided by Fishman's theory about the factors that influence language choice in social life.

Data was collected through various methods, including observation, interviews, documentation, and recording speech during cooperation activities in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community, who are native speakers of Tetun and Meto. The data is in the form of conversations related to cooperation

activities of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community, presented in the form of written transcripts. Furthermore, the sentences in the conversational speech are translated literally and also translated into effective Indonesian. The collected data was analyzed using the Miles and Huberman model approach. Data analysis was carried out through three main stages, namely data reduction, presentation, and verification.

Checking the validity of the data found in this research was carried out in the following stages.

1) Internal validity/credibility testing.

Internal validity testing was carried out by the author by reading, marking each data, adjusting, and classifying it according to the research focus. This validity test aims to answer the research focus accurately and reliably according to the social and cultural situation

2) Triangulation is like a) triangulation of data sources, the author looks for sources that are tailored to the research focus. b) triangulation of data collectors, the author collects data from more than one informant, namely two people as informants,

3) triangulation of data collection methods, the author does this using observation, documentation techniques, note-taking techniques, interview techniques, and (4) theoretical triangulation, the author does this using various theories that support or are relevant to this study, so that the author does not only use one theory but more than one theory.

Research Results and Discussion

1. The Realm of Mutual Cooperation Uses the Tetun language

The Realm of Cooperation, Dialogue between Farmers Cleaning the Fields Using Low Variety Tetum ((RR)) in a Relaxed Situation

Context of event: dialogue that occurred between LL (53 years) and GS (67 years). Both of them are male parents and are family or relatives who live next door to each other in the Biboki Anleu area. The dialogue took place when they were doing their daily work as field farmers. LL told GS about the work that had to be completed immediately because it would rain soon. Meanwhile, GS responded by saying it was working slowly even though it would be down at this time.

The people who take part in the dialogue are people who live around the Biboki Anleu area with daily work as farmers or gardeners.

Dialogue Excerpt as Follows

- LL : *Ai hafaho lai-lais udan mai onan, Bapak.*
 GS : *Ai hafaho nainaik e.*
 LL : *Ai rai kaloan ne, la oras ida udan mai onan.*
 GS : *Lale...*
 LL : *Ita la hafaho mo'at, nanti batar mate to?*
 GS : *Ha'a a....*
 LL : *Mo'at kalo taka batar.*
 GS : *Haaa udan la mai onan.*
 LL : *Ai keta te rai tinan nia mesti udan e.*
 GS : *Ita hanawa oan ida, ita ha faho e.*
 LL : *Ita ema ne tur nanaik dei, ita tur resik o surwisu la maju.*
 GS : *Surwisu la maju e...*

Literal translation

- LL : Ai tofa cepat-cepat hujan datang sudah Bapak.
 GS : Ai tofa pelan-pelan.
 LL : Ai tanah berawan ini, tidak lama satu hujan datang sudah.
 GS : Tidak
 LL : Kita tidak tofa rumput nanti jagung mati,
 GS : Iya....
 LL : Rumput kalau tutup jagung.
 GS : Hujan tidak datang sudah.
 LL : Aduh, jangan karena tanah musim hujan dia pasti hujan.
 GS : Kita berhenti anak satu, kita tofa
 LL : Kita orang ini duduk pelan-pelan saja, kita duduk terus kerja tidak maju.
 GS : Kerja tidak maju....

Free translation

- LL : 'Ayolah, Bapak tofalah secepatnya karena akan turun hujan.'
 GS : 'Tofa pelan-pelan saja.'
 LL : 'Cuaca berawan, sebentar lagi akan turun hujan.'
 GS : 'Tidak'
 LL : 'Jika kita tidak membersihkan rumput nanti jagung tidak akan tumbuh?'
 GS : 'Iya...'
 LL : 'Jika rumput menutup jagung'
 GS : 'Hujan tidak akan turun.'
 LL : 'Aduh,... musim hujan seperti sekarang ini, pasti turun hujan.'
 GS : 'Kita istirahat dulu, nanti baru lanjut membersihkan lagi.'
 LL : 'Jika kita duduk santai begini terus, kerja tidak akan selesai.'
 GS : 'Pekerjaan kita tidak ada kemajuan....'

2. The Realm of Cooperation Uses the Meto Language

The Realm of Cooperation Can Be Seen in a Conversation between Two Farmers Who Are Working Using Low-Variety Meto ((RR)) in a Relaxed Atmosphere in the Field

Context of the event: the dialogue that occurred between LL and GS, both of whom are farmers in Oemanu village, Biboki Anleu District. The two of them also knew each other because apart from being neighbors, they were also a family who lived and settled in Oemanu village, Biboki Anleu district. The dialogue took place in LL's field when GS was helping LL clean LL's field. The topic discussed is the climate or situation experienced when clearing land or gardens that have been planted with corn and rice.

Dialogue Excerpt as Follows

- LL : *A.... kalo ualna, nakaula ben?*
 GS : *Ualna fe nasnasan kit faijes he...*
 LL : *Hao ma pua'ta namnanuen to...?*
 GS : *Haee.... kasasa'nes fa tek beansa mak keto e...*
 LL : *Hoe... mupenet... ane, au sen nok ane woooo...*
 GS : *Paleo han keut to.....*
 LL : *Kaisa mak homatman folo RT...*
 GS : *Haeee paleo han maet... hahaha*

Literal translation

- LL : A.... kalau hujan, hujan turun sudah?
 GS : Hujan baru kasih berhenti kita satu malam ya...
 LL : Oke rumput kotor sudah panjang to?
 GS : Heiiii.... tidak apa-apa baru pakai parang untuk potong e...
 LL : Heiii... lihat... padi, saya tanam dengan padi woووو...
 GS : Biar supaya potong to.....
 LL : Jangan bilang kau punya mata buta RT...
 GS : Heiiii biar supaya mati ... hahahahah

Free translation

- LL : 'Jika akan turun hujan, biarlah turun hujan, kan?'
 GS : 'Hujannya baru berhenti semalam'
 LL : 'Iya... akan tetapi rumputnya sudah tinggi, kan?'
 GS : 'Heiiii.... tak apalah, nanti juga bisa ditebas dengan parang'
 LL : 'Heiii... lihat itu... ada padinya, saya menanam dengan padi juga...'
 GS : 'Biarlah dipotong sekalian.....'
 LS : 'Janganlah kau mengatakan demikian kalau matamu buta ya Pak RT...'
 GS : 'Heiiii... biarlah padinya juga ikut mati sekalian ...hahahahaha'

Based on data 1 and data 2, the conversation between Tetum and low variety Meto ((RR)) above seems to be caused by the familiarity between the two speakers. Conversations are not tied to formal language rules and speak in a more relaxed way. Conversations are not formal or stiff, because the speaker and the interlocutor understand each other and do not feel disturbed by each other's way of speaking. Apart from that, the Tetum and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages are also used because there are elements of social interaction that show family or kinship relationships between communication participants, and make conversations more intimate and full of jokes, without causing discomfort. Thus, it can be concluded that in the second quote from the conversation above,

Data on Tetun and Meto language conversations in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu can be applied to Fishman's theory regarding the factors that influence language choice in cooperation activities. Several factors influence the choice of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages in this activity, namely:

- a) Participants, one of the main factors influencing the choice of language in the conversation above is family or kinship relationships. The two farmers have a close or close relationship, so they both feel comfortable speaking the low variety ((RR)) Meto language in a relaxed atmosphere.
- b) Topic of Discussion (Topic), the conversation or dialogue is related to agricultural activities, such as rain, the length of grass, and plants. In agricultural work, sometimes the language used tends to be more casual and casual, especially if the speaker is comfortable with the topic.
- c) Place (Setting), where the event takes place is in the garden. Cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu create a relaxed and friendly atmosphere among communication participants. Cooperation activities take place and always interact with members of fellow ethnic groups using the Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages in a relaxed atmosphere. In both dialogues, the two farmers were skilled in using the Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages because they are mother tongues or everyday languages. The ability to speak low variety ((RR)) Meto allows you to communicate more freely and naturally.

The use of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) in conversations between the two farmers is due to the familiarity between the two. The communication process is carried out casually without adhering to

formal language rules because the two communication participants understand each other and have a family relationship. Factors that influenced the choice of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) were the close relationship between the two farmers, the topics of conversation related to agriculture, and the relaxed atmosphere within the Biboki Anleu ethnic group. This situation makes communication natural and relaxed in the low variety ((RR)) Tetun and Meto languages. The choice of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) in mutual cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu was influenced by several factors, apart from three factors (participants, topic of discussion,

Apart from the three (3) factors stated by Fishman above, several factors can be found that play a role in the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in the two data on cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu. First, the factor of cultural resilience and identity is very important, because the Tetun and Meto languages are an integral part of the culture of the local community. Second, social considerations, especially if there are community members who do not speak other languages fluently. The Tetun and Meto languages are used as a medium for everyone in cooperation activities. Third, social norms also have an influence, if Tetun and Meto are considered as languages used for mutual respect among participants in cooperation activities, people tend to use them. Fourth, in cooperation activities, language is considered effective for communicating about agriculture and the environment. Fifth, the use of the same language creates social unity in these activities. Sixth, the use of Tetun and Meto languages is a way to preserve culture and create an atmosphere of familiarity. Seventh, the age factor also plays a role, with the older generation tending to use Tetun and Meto, while the younger generation is more flexible in language choice. All of these factors are inte (RR)elated and influence the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu. Seventh, the age factor also plays a role, with the older generation tending to use Tetun and Meto, while the younger generation is more flexible in language choice. All of these factors are inte(RR)elated and influence the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu. Seventh, the age factor also plays a role, with the older generation tending to use Tetun and Meto, while the younger generation is more flexible in language choice. All of these factors are inte (RR)elated and influence the choice of Tetun and Meto languages in cooperation activities in Biboki Anleu.

The Impact of Choosing Tetun and Meto Languages in Mutual Cooperation on the Multiethnic Community of Biboki Anleu

The choice of the Tetun language and the low variety ((RR)) Meto language in cooperation activities in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community has a significant impact, namely: the choice of the Tetun and Meto languages indicates their benefits as a kinship relationship between communicators.

The atmosphere of conversation is relaxed and family, establishing more unified cooperation in various activities including cooperation. The choice of Tetun and Meto languages is also suspected to be due to the main issues of discussion relating to activities and locations in the garden or field. Other factors such as preserving culture and social norms also play a big role in language choice. This situation indicates that language is not just a means of communication, but also a means of maintaining and strengthening the cultural identity of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community.

The contribution of the choice of Tetun and Meto languages is social unity in the multi-ethnic community of Biboki Anleu. The common language chosen unites people from different cultural backgrounds in various activities including cooperation. The age factor also influences the choice of language used, younger people are more likely to use other languages, while the older generation tends to maintain their regional language or mother tongue as their first language.

Thus, the choice of Tetun and low variety Meto ((RR)) languages in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu does not only focus on language or linguistic selection but indicates a social and cultural relationship in a multiethnic society. Tetun and Meto languages as communication media to maintain harmony and cohesiveness in joint activities.

The Choice of Tetun and Meto Languages in Mutual Cooperation as a Form of Cultural Solidarity in Biboki Anleu

The results of this research indicate that the use of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) in conversations between farmers in cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu is influenced by several factors. These factors are: familiarity and family relationships between speakers are the main factors, which create a relaxed and natural communication atmosphere. Conversation topics related to agriculture, location of activities in the garden, as well as other factors such as preserving culture, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, social unity, and age factors also influence language choice. Overall, Tetun and low variety Meto ((RR)) are used consistently because communication between the two speakers feels comfortable in both languages,

This research has several similarities with previous research, namely: research by Ricardo (2015), stating a person's freedom to choose the language used according to the atmosphere or situation they are facing. Thus, it shows that there are similarities in the choice of language according to the ongoing communication event. Myers-Scotton (in Otsuji & Pennycook, 2010) states proficiency in using two languages in language selection, which is also related to situations and conditions. The results of this research are in line with findings relating to factors that influence language choice, including familiarity, activity location, and social considerations influencing language choice in cooperation activities. Furthermore, the research results of Kurhila et al. (2021) and Mis & Muhammad Situl (2022) emphasize the importance of language asymmetry in daily communication which has an impact on the image or quality of work in certain situations. This kind of event is expressed by the results of research on factors such as language effectiveness and social cohesion playing a role in language choice.

This research supports the research of Kurhila et al. (2021) and Mis & Muhammad Situl (2022), together emphasizing the effects of language asymmetry in everyday communication and its impact on the image or quality of work in different contexts. Although the two studies are different, there are similarities regarding factors such as familiarity, language effectiveness, social unity, and other factors influencing language choice in various communication situations. The results of this research highlight that communication between cooperation farmers in Biboki Anleu, the choice of Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages is influenced by these factors, creating communication that is appropriate to the culture and social closeness in the region, while Kurhila et al. (2021) highlights the obstacles of language asymmetry in daily routines, and research by Mis & Muhammad Situl (2022) highlights the impact of choosing a language that is not appropriate to the communication situation on the image and quality of work. This situation indicates that language choice is a complex process that influences various aspects of social and work activities.

Dewaele & Nakano (2013) stated that a person's character changes depending on the language used in communication, thus it is related to the results of this research because the choice of language creates a person's atmosphere and behavior that by the culture and social closeness of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community. Likewise, the research results of Tihuraa & Shin (2022) are in line with the results of this research, namely an effort to provide understanding to the language community about the benefits of preserving language as an important aspect of a culture and community group.

This research highlights communication between two farmers in cooperation activities in the Biboki Anleu community. In this activity, two farmers tended to choose the Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages because they were influenced by several factors, including familiarity, family relationships, and other factors, such as agriculture, activity location, and social considerations. This situation reflects the choice of language adapted to the habits or culture and familiarity of the people in the Biboki Anleu area. The research results of Tihuraa & Shin (2022) reveal awareness of the importance of cultivating language as a vital means of culture and community groups. The importance of preserving language and culture is in common with this research. These two studies highlight language as

an important part of cultural identity and linguistic communities, so extra attention is needed to preserve and develop languages in their respective regions. Therefore, Tihurua & Shin's (2022) research is similar to the results of this research in that both focus on the importance of language as an important aspect of language culture and society, although in different activities.

The results of this study support Fishman's statement (in Shin et al., 2018, pp. 68–69) which emphasizes the factors that influence the choice of language in communication, although these two studies are different, several similarities were found, including: Fishman groups various domains or domains that influence the choice of language in the Puerto Rican community in New York, such as the family domain, friendship, religion, education, and work including cooperation. This research reveals the factors that influence the choice of language in farmer cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, including friendships, familial relationships, and relevant conversational focuses such as agriculture. This research also found several other factors, for example preserving culture, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, social unity,

There is another similarity, namely that both Fishman in his 1971 research and this research emphasize the urgency of social factors that influence language choice. By the explanation of the similarities and differences between the two studies, they both reveal that language choice is the origin of conversations that arise from various factors, including individual, social, and cultural factors that are interrelated in communication events between individuals.

The results of this research show how important it is to choose the Tetum and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages in farmer cooperation activities in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu. The results of this research highlight various social and cultural factors, such as closeness and kinship ties between speakers, as the main actors in language choice. The relaxed and simple conversation situation indicates the urgency of the cohesiveness factor in building social communication in the Biboki Anleu area. The problems discussed are related to agricultural activities and the location of activities in the garden are important factors in determining the choice of language, which indicates that language is used as a medium to seek to share knowledge related to agriculture. Several other factors such as cultural preservation, social development, social norms, language effectiveness, social cohesion, and age factors also influence language choices. Therefore, these findings provide a solid foundation to support policies aimed at promoting and preserving the use of the Tetun and Meto ((RR)) languages in farmer cooperation events, along with understanding the benefits of culture and solidarity in the interacting life of the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community.

These findings also provide motivation in efforts to maintain the survival of other regional languages in various regions experiencing the same problems. Multiethnic communities need to study the factors that influence language choice so that they are more effective in developing language and culture in the local area. The results of this research also provide a strong foundation for maintaining diverse ethnicities and cultures by increasing inter-ethnic cooperation in the Biboki Anleu region.

Conclusion

The choice of the Tetum and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages in cooperation activities carried out by the multi-ethnic Biboki Anleu community has had an important impact or effect. This situation indicates a unified family connectivity between communication participants, giving birth to a relaxed situation in family speech.

The use of Tetum and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages well is due to the connection with the topic of discussion about agriculture and the location of these activities in gardens or fields. Several factors below also influence the choice of Tetun and Meto languages apart from the factors above, namely: cultural preservation factors, social considerations, social norms, language effectiveness, social

unity, and age factors. The use of the Tetun and Meto low variety ((RR)) languages is not only a means of communication but depicts a cultural image and strengthens cohesiveness or unity in the multiethnic Biboki Anleu community.

The results of this research illustrate an understanding regarding the urgency of language as a form of personality and togetherness in local community culture and provide a solid foundation for the preservation and development of regional languages in other regions that experience similar obstacles. Therefore, the choice of Tetun and Meto low variety (RR) languages in cooperation in the multiethnic community of Biboki Anleu, indicates that language can be an important means of strengthening cultural harmony and togetherness even though it consists of various ethnicities.

Acknowledgments

We would like to express our gratitude to all our friends from the doctoral program of Universitas Negeri Surabaya who have contributed to completing this project and to our families who have provided moral support and encouragement throughout this process. To our colleagues and fellow researchers who have shared valuable ideas and insights to develop the concepts in this paper. We greatly appreciate the contributions of all parties who have assisted us in completing this project. All of this support and collaboration means a lot to us.

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