Morphological Process of *Devayan*: An Analysis of Morphological Tipology

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Abstract

Purpose – This study aims to determine the roles of technology trough digital democracy in younger generation's political education.

Design/Methodology/Approach – The language is analyzed using the theory of generative morphology which is developed by Morris Hale, Aronoff, Scalise, and Dardjowidjojo. The basic theory is the word formation through affixation process.

Findings – It is found that Devayan belongs to agglitunative-type language. Therefore, this language forms its words using prefixes, infixes, and suffixes by managing the process of morphemes compounding in order to get actual and potential words. Potential word formation is classified as language units that do not exist in reality.

Research Limitations/Implications – This research limits the scope of attention only on the morphological process.

Originality/Value – The findings can be used as references for those concerns in the revitalization of this minority language in the effort of composing a dictionary of Devayan.

Keywords Morphological process, morphological tipology, word formation, affixation

1. Introduction

Devayan is a language spoken by tribes inhabiting particular parts of Simelue Island, an island in the Indian ocean spread along the western part of Aceh Province, Indonesia. In the Island, there are three mother languages, namely Devayan, Sigulai, and Leukon language. Devayan language is spoken in seven districts, namely Simelue Cut, Simelue Timur, Simelue Tengah, Teupah Barat, Teupah Tengah, Teupah Selatan, and Teluk Dalam. There is a serious concern that the language of Devayan tends to be unpopular especially among younger generations in the community.

We intend to investigate the morphological tipology of Devayan with focusing on the process of affixation. Word formation is a very interesting morphological phenomenon to be analyzed. It has been done on some local languages in Indonesia but so far its discussion has

very limited and they were mostly described in traditional descriptive. Therefore, it needs a more sophisticated theoretical model, such as the theory of generative morphology developed by Halle (1973), Aronoff (1976), Scalise (1984), and Dardjowidjojo (1988) in the approach to the study of word formation resulting in order to conclude more comprehensive description.

Based on the analysis, the affixation process in Devayan language is in accordance with the rule of word formation that regulates agglutination among morphemes to form the actual and potential words. Potential word formation is classified as lingual unit that does not exist due to meet the requirements. Word formation rule that meets all requirements but not existed in the language have not been output from the filter as words written in the dictionary.

2. Morphological process

This part deals with some theoretical study on some theories and previous related researches concerning digital democracy, political education, and political participation. This paper limits the discussions on young generation's political activities.

In this level, morphology is the study of a word structure. With the development of structural and generative linguistics, the separation of the linguistic level is fading and further developing toward the relationship doctrine toward a focusing on one level of linguistic analysis (Katamba, 1993). Therefore, morphological analysis related to other levels such as phonology, syntax, and semantic allows for more comprehensive morphologic process.

Katamba (1993) states that the morphology is the study of the structure of a word, while Nida (1949) regarded morphology as the study of morphemes and their distribution in a word formation. In International Encyclopedia of Linguistics (2003) mentioned that the range of traditional Morphology includes (1) inflectional morphology that studies how words vary in expressing grammatical differences in a sentence and (2) derivational morphology that studies the principles that govern the formation of words without referring to a particular grammatical role in a sentence. In the model of Bauer (1983), morphology includes inflection and word formation, which in turn it can be divided into (a) the derivation and (b) composition (compounding).

The formation of causative verbs in English, for example, is a pretty interesting morphological phenomenon to be studied. So far the discussion about causative verbs and/ or the process of word formation is merely limited to traditional descriptive; therefore, we need a more sophisticated theoretical model (such as Generative Morphology) to the study of causative verbs in a more comprehensive analysis.

Attention of linguists to the theory of generative morphology began when they responded to an invitation from Chomsky (1970) through his writings, entitled "Remarks on Nominalization." In his article, he describes how important the field of morphology, especially, the word formation process in terms of the theory of transformation. Dardjowidjojo (1988) notes that the person who first put a serious interest towards generative morphology is Morris Halle in his paper entitled "Morphology in a Generative Grammar" presented at the Congress of Linguists, in Bologna in 1972. The next year the work was published under the title of "Prolegomena to a Theory of Word Formation". Halle posted very strong impact and was followed by other experts in the form of articles and by Aronoff (1976) and Scalise (1984) in a book form. In general, it can be identified that among the group of people who pursue the field of generative morphology, there are two views. The first group spearheaded by Halle rests on the assumption that the basis of all derivation is

morphemes (morpheme-based approach) and the second group spearheaded by Aronoff use word as a base (word-based approach) not based on morphems.

We can understand the universality of a language, but a language is also arbitrary and to some extent every language has its own uniqueness that is not shared by other languages. On the basis of this, the typical pattern of word formation linguists morphological typology distinguishes five languages namely: (1) analytic languages (also called isolating), (2) agglutinating languages (also called agglutinative), (3) inflecting languages (also called synthetic or fissional), (4) incorporating languages (also called polysynthetic), and (5) infixing languages (Katamba, 1993). However, both theoretical models are adequate to explain the phenomenon of the formation of English words, a number of components of the concept proposed in this model (especially DM and KPK) still invite discussion or question and still leaves the cases that could not be explained and require fusion and adjustment of the model to be applied on a case study or a certain data corpus.

3. Morphological process of *devayan*

One characteristic of agglutination language is that there are more word formations through affixation process. Affixes can be attached to the initial shape of the base (prefix), in the basic form (infix), at the end of the basic form (suffix), or prefixes and suffixes attached together on the basic form (confix). Word formations through affixation process are also included in the Devayan to form new words in addition to reduplication and compounding processes. Devayan affixation phenomena can be seen in the following examples:

Lafene   mangawancak   nai.
His wife   PREF-cook   rice.   **(ma-awancak)**
"His wife **cooks** rice."
Anakne   tumataeng
alek   deo.
His son   INF-sit   with   me.   **(taeng –um-)**
"His son sits."
Anakne   tumataeng   alek   deo.
His son-SUFF   INF-sit   with   me.   **(anak-ne)**
"**Anaknya** duduk bersama saya."
Dise   manumbekan   yalur o.

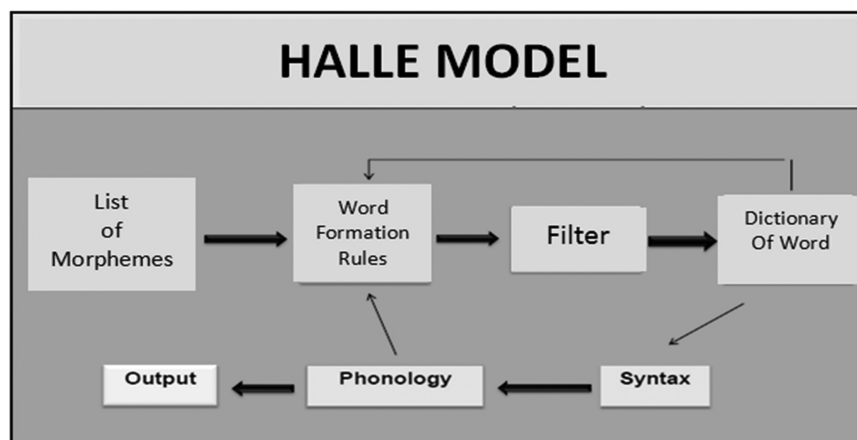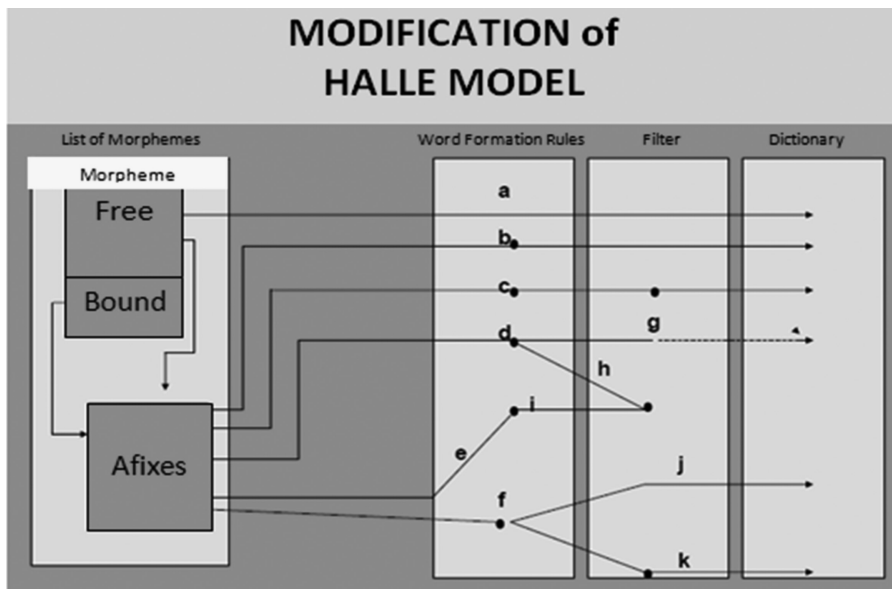Figure 1.
Halle Model of Word Formation

Figure 2.
Modification of Halle
Model

He   PRE-sink-SUFF   my boat   **(ma-tumbek-an)**
"Dia menenggelamkan perahu saya."
Mantiok   niradak   mayal.
A cat   PASS. catch   a rat.
"A cat caught a rat "   **(ni-radak)**

Affixation reflected in the above examples shows different phenomena as follows:

(1) form *mangawancak* 'to cook' occurs through affixation process of *–ma* to the basis of awancak

(2) forms *tumataeng* 'sit' occurs through a process of infix **– um-** to *taeng*

(3) the form of *anakne* 'his son' going through the process of suffex *– ne* to *anak*

(4) form *manumbekan* 'sink' going through the process confix **me-**and **–an** forms to *umbek*

(5) form *niradak* 'catch' going through the process of affixation **ni-** to *radak*.

Based on the example sentences above, the Devayan language also undergoes affixation. Word formation rules set a blend between morphemes to form words both actual and

Free Morphem	Bound Morphem	Word Formation	Filter	Potential Words	Dictionary
awancak	Ma-*mangawancak*	Prefix	+	+	+
Tataeng	-um-*tumataeng*	Infix	+	+	+
Anak	-ne*Anakne*	Suffix	+	+	+
tumbek	Ma- and –an m*manumbekan*	Confix	+	+	+
radak	Ni-*Niradak*	Suffix	+	+	+

Table 1.
Word Formation of
Devayan

potential. In this case, it is obvious that the native of Devayan language has linguistic intuition in the formation of words semantically whether it is acceptable or not.

The basic assumption of Halle (1973) is that normally the speakers of certain language besides having knowledge of words, they also understand about the composition and structure of those words. In other words, native speakers of a language have the ability to

Free Morphem	Bound Morphem	Word Formation	Filter	Potential Words	Dictionary
Tanem "to plant"	-an *Taneman* "plant"	Suffix	+	+	+
Aong "to call"	-an *aongan* "the call"	Suffix	+	+	+
Harajo "to work"	-an *Harajoan* "job"	Suffix	−	+	−
Enak "to see"	-an *Enakan* "sight"	Suffix	−	+	−
Manek "to climb"	Ma-; -i *Manganeki* "to climb something"	Confix	+	+	+
Tanem "to plant"	Ma-; -i *Mananemi* "to plant on something"	Confix	+	+	+
Rangkul "to throw"	Ma-; -i *Marangkuli* "throw on something"	Confix	−	+	−
Tuntung "to pour"	Ma-; -an *Manuntungan* "to pour something"	Confix	+	+	+
Aongan "to call"	Ma-; -an *maaonganan* "to call someone"	Confix	−	+	−
Anek "panjat"	Ma- Manganek "to climb)	Prefix	+	+	+
Aloha "dayung"	Ma- *Mangaloha* (to row)	Prefix	+	+	+
Atai "tinggi"	Ma- *Mangatai* "to make something higher"	Prefix	+	+	+
Atelu "rendah"	Ma- *Mangatelu* "to make something lower"	Prefix	+	+	+
Atai "tinggi"	Ma-/ -an *Mangatai* "meninggikan"	Confix	−	+	−
Atelu "rendah"	Ma-/-an *Mangatelu* "merendahkan"	Confix	−	+	−

recognize words in their language; how it is formed and simultaneously be able to distinguish that a word does not exist in the language.

Word Formation Rules determines how the forms that exist in the word formation set. In this regard, the task of word formation is to form words from morphemes derived from List of Morphemes. Commission together with the DM determines the correct word Bena-potential in the form of words or language which lingual unit that does not exist in reality but may be there due to meet the requirements. In other words, the Word Formation Rules could produce any forms of real words and other forms that actually meet all the requirements to be words but it is not included in the language.

Dictionary stores all for pass words which have passed through the filter while those which are not accepted will retain in the filter. Halle does not regard a dictionary as a component of morphology, but from his description it is obvious that a dictionary is as important as the other three components. Dardjowidjojo (1988, p. 36) presented a model of Halle as shown in Figures 1 and 2.

Based on word formation elements in the example, sentence above can be formulated in Table 1 of language formation.

Table 1 shows that the formation of words in the Devayan language undergoes morphological processes through affixation, prefiksasi, and infiksas; furthermore, when we observe more detail, we can conclude that the form of words that meet the requirements of the word formation rules will pass phonological ideosincretic before entering the dictionary, for example, the formation process of the word *mangawancak* which is formed from *awancak* plus prefix *ma-*. Phonologically bound morpheme *ma-* can only be combined with a free morpheme beginning with a consonant. Meanwhile, ng can only be combined with a free morpheme beginning with a vowel.

Table 2 shows the presence of some Devayan word formation in more varied compared with the formation of words contained in Table 1. Morphologically and phonologically, those words are actually included in the words of potential list but semantically they cannot pass the filtration process, so automatically the words are not included in the Devayan dictionary.

4. Conclusion

Based on the simple discussion above, it can be concluded that Devayan language also undergoes morphological processes like other languages through affixation process using prefixation, suffixation, and infixation.

Some words formed morphologically can be potential in nature but not always semantically accepted for not commonly used in the speech by native speakers so that the language does not qualify idiosyncrasy (filter) into Devayan language dictionary.

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