

7 ICLEI 2017-67 Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna

### Clauses in the Sundanese Language

Eva Tuckyta Sari Sujatna<sup>\*a</sup>, Yuyu Yohana Risagarniwa<sup>b</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Linguistics, Universitas Padjadjaran  
Bandung, Indonesia

<sup>\*</sup>Corresponding Author: [eva.tuckyta@unpad.ac.id](mailto:eva.tuckyta@unpad.ac.id)

#### ABSTRACT

This study explores the clauses in Sundanese. The word Sundanese can refer to a tribe, culture, or a language in Indonesia. This study relates to the word Sundanese as a language. The Sundanese language is one of the biggest numbers of speaker among the local languages in Indonesia. It is the second rank after Javanese language as the biggest number of the speakers. Sundanese language as one of the Austronesian languages is different from English as the West Germanic languages. The aims of this study are to figure out the types of clauses and the pattern of clauses found in the Sundanese language compared to English language. The method applied in this research is descriptive method. In terms of predicates, there are two types of clauses; verbal clauses and nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language. Relating to the data, the clauses in Sundanese language, predicates do not always contain of a verb since it could contain of other open classes. The verbal clauses, similar to English language do always contain of verb while the nonverbal clauses could contain of adjectival, nominal, or adverbial as the predicate.

*Keywords:* Sundanese language, verbal clauses, nonverbal clauses

#### Introduction

Sundanese language or Bahasa Sunda or Basa Sunda is one of the local languages in Indonesia. Indonesia is an island country with thirty four provinces and it has around seven hundreds local language. According to Crystal (1990) and Sobarna (2007) in Sujatna (2017), there are 13 high ranks of local languages related to the number of the speakers; the number is above one million speakers and the big three are Javanese language (75.2 million), Sundanese language (27 million), and Malay (20 million).

The word Sundanese can refer to language, culture, or even tribe. This article tries to figure out the word Sundanese that refers to language. As one of local languages in Indonesia, Sundanese language is also classified into Austronesian languages. Since Sundanese is one of Austronesian languages, Sundanese language is different from English as one of Germanic languages.

Relating to Ethnologue, 21<sup>st</sup> February 2017, there are around 7,099 living languages worldwide —a net increase of 2 living languages since the 19th edition was published one year ago. This is the result of changes in extinction status of some languages and of updating **Ethnologue** to keep it aligned with the ISO 639-3 inventory of languages. Bopp (1897), Jespersen (1922) in Sobarna (2007) illustrated language as a human; it can breed and finally can die. In line with the argumentation, Aitchison (1981) argued that language can be differentiated into two different kinds of language death: language suicide and language murder. The first classification, the language can be classified into language suicide since the language loans many words from other language then the language change into the new one. While the language can be classified into language murder, the language is under pressured

by other language as the dominant one. The dominant one is not only dominant in the language but also the socio-culture, politics and economy so that the language will die. To avoid the death of Sundanese language and to maintain the Sundanese language, the present writers report their research on the types of clauses in Sundanese language. The study describes the verbal and nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language.

### Research Method

The method applied in this research is descriptive method. It describes the types of clauses in Sundanese language.

The writers do the research step by step related to the data collected. Firstly, the writers collected the clauses in Sundanese language further as the data. Secondly, the writers did two classifications found in the data related the predicate of the clauses: they are verbal clauses and nonverbal clauses. Thirdly, the writers identified the types of word classes functioned as predicate. As the verbal clauses, the predicate are always verbs while the nonverbal clauses the predicates could be classified into three different types: adjectival, nominal, or adverbial.

### Discussion

Sundanese language is almost similar to Bahasa Indonesia; Bahasa Indonesia has two different types of clauses: verbal and non-verbal clauses (Sujatna, 2012). Predicate in both Sundanese language and Bahasa Indonesia can be verbal and nonverbal. Since the predicate in Sundanese language are verbal and nonverbal; the Sundanese clauses are also categorized into verbal and nonverbal clauses. The verbal predicate in Sundanese clauses are verbs while the nonverbal predicate in Sundanese clauses can be filled by noun, adjective, or prepositional phrase.

### Verbal Clauses in Sundanese Language

Commonly, the predicate of clauses are verbs. It happens to Bahasa Indonesia and also in Sundanese language. The following are the examples of verbal clauses in Sundanese language.

- (1) *Manehna indit ka Jakarta kamari.*  
 he/ she go to Jakarta yesterday  
 'He/ She went to Jakarta yesterday'
- (2) *Udin nyieun langlayangan keur adi- na.*  
 Udin make kite for little brother his  
 'Udin made a kite for his little brother'
- (3) *Udin nyieunkeun adi- na langlayangan.*  
 Udin make little brother his kite  
 'Udin made his little brother a kite'
- (4) *Imas ngajadikeun Arip pamingpin regu.*  
 Imas make Arip leader team  
 'Imas made Arip the team leader'

The four examples of the clauses described the different types of verbs in Sundanese clauses. The first example describes the use of the verb *indit* 'go' in *Manehna indit ka Jakarta*

as an intransitive verb. The clause (1) has *Manehna* as the subject, *indit* as a predicate or a verb, *ka Jakarta* and *kamari* as the adverbials so the pattern of the clause is SVA.

The example in the second clause is not similar to the first, in the example (2) the verb *nyien* 'make' in *Udin nyien langlayangan keur adina* as a mono transitive verb since the verb needs one noun as an object. The clause (2) has *manehna* as a subject, *nyien* as a predicate or a mono transitive verb, *langlayangan* as a noun that function as an object, and *keur adina* is a prepositional phrase as an adverbial so the pattern of the clause is SVOA.

The clause in the example (3) is not similar to the clauses (2) although it has the same verb, *nyieun*. The verb *nyien(keun)* in *Udin nyieunkeun adina langlayangan* is categorized into ditransitive verb since the verb *nyieunkeun* needs two nouns functions as objects. It is described that the clause (3) has *Udin* as the subject, *nyieunkeun* as the predicate or a ditransitive verb and both *adina* and *langlayangan* are nouns as the objects so the pattern of the clause is SVOO.

The clause in the example (4) describes that the clause has the verb *ngajadikeun* in the clause *Imas ngajadikeun Arip pamingpin regu* is categorized into complex transitive since the verb needs object and object complement. The word *Imas* is a subject, *ngajieunkeun* as the predicate or complex transitive verb, *Arip* as an object, and *pamingpin regu* as the noun phrase functions as the object complement so the pattern of the clause is SVOCO. Now we move to nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language.

### Nonverbal Clauses in Sundanese Language

The four examples above described the types of verbal clauses in Sundanese languages and the following is the nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language.

(5) *Indung-na guru di SD.*

mother his teacher in elementary

'His mother is a teacher in elementary school.'

(6) *Adi-na pinter pisan.*

brother his clever very

'His little brother is very clever.'

(7) *Lanceukna di imah.*

sister her at home

'Her sister is at home.'

The three examples above describe the nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language. It is shown that that the predicate can be a noun, an adjective, or a prepositional phrase.

The clause (5) describes that the predicate of the clause is a noun since the clause does not have a verb. The word *Indungna* is a subject while the word *guru* is a noun functions as a predicate, followed by *di SD* as a prepositional phrase functions as an adverbial so the pattern is S P (N) A. The English clause of the example (5) is different from Sundanese language, the English pattern is SVCA.

The clause (6) is one of the nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language, since the clause does not contain of a verb. The word *Adina* is a subject and the words *pinter pisan* is an adjective phrase functions as a predicate, so the pattern is S P(AP) while the English pattern is SVC.

The last example, the clause (7) is also a nonverbal clause since it has no verb. The word *Lanceukna* in the clause (7) is a subject, and *di imah* is a prepositional phrase functions as a predicate, so the pattern of the clause is S P(PP) while the English pattern is SVA.

### Conclusion

It is concluded that Sundanese language as one of local languages in Indonesia has two types of clauses: verbal clauses and nonverbal clauses since it is compared to English language which the predicate should be verbal.

The predicate of the verbal clauses in Sundanese language can be intransitive verb, mono transitive verb, ditransitive verb, or complex transitive verb. Relating to the data discussed, the pattern of both English and Sundanese language in the verbal clauses could be SVA, SVOA, SVOO, or SVCo.

Later, the predicate of the nonverbal clauses in Sundanese language could be a noun (noun phrase), an adjective (adjective phrase), or a prepositional phrase. Based on the analyzed data, the patterns of Sundanese clause are not similar to English clauses. The pattern of the clauses found: firstly SVCA (in English clause) SP(N)A (in Sundanese clause); secondly, SVC (in English clause) SP(AP) (in Sundanese clause); and thirdly, SVA (in English clause) SP(PP) (in Sundanese clause).

### References

- Urdan, T. C. (2005). *Statistics in plain English* (2nd ed.). New Jersey: Lawrence Erlbaum Associates, Inc.
- The World Bank. (2011). *Malaysia Economic Monitor*. Bangkok: World Bank.
- The Economic Planning Unit. (2010). *Tenth Malaysia Plan 2011-2015*. Putrajaya: Prime Minister's Department.
- Tang, F., Mu, J., & MacLachlan, D. L. (2010). Disseminative capacity, organizational structure and knowledge transfer. *Expert Systems with Applications*, 37, 1586–1593.
- Narteh, B. (2008). Knowledge transfer in developed-developing country inter-firm collaborations: a conceptual framework. *Journal of Knowledge Management*, 12(1), 78-91.
- Sekaran, U. (2000). *Research methods for business. A skill building approach*. New York: John Wiley & Sons, Inc.
- Aitchison, J. (1981). *Language Change: Process or Decay*. Bungay: Suffolk: The Chaucer Press.
- Comrie, B. (2003). *The Atlas of Languages: The Origin and Development of Languages Throughout The world*. Singapore: Star Standard.
- Crystal, D. (1990). *Language Death*. Great Britain: Cambridge University Press.
- Jespersen, O. (1922). *Language: Its Nature, Development, and Origin*. London: Alen and Unwim.
- Sobarna, C. (2007). Bahasa Sunda Sudah Diambang Kematiankah? *Makara, Sosial Humaniora*, 13-17.
- Weinrich, U. (1968). *Language Contact: Findings and Problems*. The Houge: Mouton.
- Sujatna, E. T., Heriyanto, & Pamungkas, K. (2016). Place-Naming of Tourism Destinations in Jawa Barat: A Toponymy Study. *IJASOS- International E-Journal of Advances in Social Sciences*, 471-476.
- Sujatna, E. T. (2012). Sundanese Verbs in Mental Processes: A Systemic Functional Linguistic Approach. *International Journal of Linguistics*, 468-476.
- Sujatna, E. T., Dienaputra, R., Suryadimulya, A. S., Sofianto, K., Muhtadin, T., Darmayanti, N., & Amalia, R. M. (2017). Are the Names of Street in Bojonagara District – Bandung as A Local Language Maintenance? *The 5th International Conference on Social Science and Management*. Kyoto: Higher Education Forum.
- Sujatna, E. T. (2012). Applying Systemic Functional Linguistics to Bahasa Indonesia Clauses. *International Journal of Linguistics*, 134-146.