

BALINESE WIKIPEDIA AS AN EFFORT TO PRESERVE AND MAINTAIN BALINESE LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

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ABSTRACT

Balinese language is a typical language of Balinese spoken in both oral and written communication. The development of the era causes the degradation of the use and the knowledge of Balinese language and culture. Moreover, some terms in Balinese language and culture are rarely carried out and start to be forgotten; so that the current generations do not know those terms. As the follow-up to an issue, the government of Bali with the visions and missions of Nangun Sat Kerti Loka Bali emphasizes one of its visions namely, preserving Balinese language and culture in the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0. Balinese Wikipedia is one of the efforts to preserve Balinese Language and Culture in the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0. Balinese Wikipedia is a significant breakthrough made by students, language experts and academicians to lift Balinese language in the same degree as Bahasa Indonesia, English, and other languages. The theory used in this study was the Sociolinguistic theory, namely the preservation of a language. Data were collected by using the literature and interview method with note-taking technique. The data were analysed using the matching method. The results show that Balinese Wikipedia is an effort to preserve the use of Balinese Language and Culture. Balinese Wikipedia does not only contain knowledge about Balinese Language and Culture, but people can write and share knowledge about Balinese Language and Culture. Balinese Wikipedia is able to lift of Balinese language to English and other foreign languages.

Keywords: Wikipedia, Preservation, Balinese Language and Culture

1. INTRODUCTION

Balinese language is the mother tongue for Balinese people. The development of era has brought Balinese language has decreased. Moreover, the position of Balinese as the mother tongue has begun to be replaced by Bahasa Indonesia. It has been reflected on the use of Bahasa Indonesia is more often used in the schools and formal activities. The use of Balinese language is usually only used in the home and family scope. We can see this from the reality that Balinese youths who live in urban areas rarely use Balinese language. Moreover, they tend to use Bahasa Indonesia at home. It is not only the decrease of Balinese language, but some cultural knowledge or Balinese cultural terms begin to be forgotten or abandoned. This has prompted the current government to launch the vision and mission of *Nangun Sat Kerti Loka* Bali which means maintaining the sanctity and harmony of Balinese nature and its contents to create in a prosperous and happy to the life for Balinese people and environment in accordance to Bung Karno's Trisakti principles, namely politically sovereign, economically independence, and personality in culture. One of the missions of the government of Bali is, related to the use of language, preserving Balinese language and culture in the midst of the rapid development of the era of Industrial Revolution 4.0. The government expects this mission brings increasingly the awareness of Balinese language and culture. The preservation of Balinese would be able to be occurred by Balinese only.

The government, moreover, has prepared a draft of government program on Bali Governor Regulation No. 80 of 2018 concerning the Protection and Use of

Balinese Language, Script and Literature and the Implementation of the Balinese Language Month. The Governor Regulation issued by the government clearly emphasizes the protection and use of the Balinese language. The government also marks one month to commemorate the Balinese Language Month. This month is used to hold competitions related to Balinese language to increase interest and talent in using Balinese language, such as Balinese MC contests, Speech contest, *Mesatwa* (storytelling), writing, poetry competitions and etc. Balinese language month activities must be attended by all parties which are organized by the Government of Bali.

In addition to the draft government program on protecting the Balinese language, the government issued a Governor Regulation which aims to preserve Balinese traditional clothing. The government issued Bali Governor Regulation Number 79 of 2018 concerning Days for Wearing Balinese Traditional Clothing. The government determines Thursday as the day for all government agencies to wear traditional clothes.

The government's program to protect and use Balinese language, script and literature is also supported by students, academics, language experts and Balinese writers. Balinese students, academics, linguists and writers innovate to fight for and promote the Balinese language to be known in the world. It aims to preserve Balinese Language and Culture. One of the breakthroughs made by students, academics of Balinese Language and Culture and others is to encourage Balinese language to entry Wikipedia. As we know, Wikipedia is an international website that can be used to access and edit the contents of the web. Wikipedia contains a variety of information and discusses various languages, cultures and many other things in the world, and can be accessed by the whole world freely and for free. Wikipedia can be accessed in various languages in the world, and students, academics, linguists and others are struggling to make Balinese language accessible on Wikipedia. By including the Balinese language in Wikipedia, it is expected that the Balinese language can occupy the same position as other foreign languages and can be recognized throughout the world. In Wikipedia, it does not only discuss Balinese language, but also contains Balinese culture.

This study discusses the Balinese Language Wikipedia as an effort in the preservation and maintenance of Balinese Language and Culture. This research was examined using sociolinguistic theory, namely language maintenance. In general, language maintenance is defined as a decision to continue to use language collectively by a community that has used that language before (Fasold, 1984), in this case, the use of Balinese by the Balinese community whose use is increasingly rare because it is influenced by Bahasa Indonesia and other foreign languages. The use of Balinese language supports Bali which is a tourist area where knowledge and use of foreign languages is very important. In the midst of the development of the era of industrial revolution 4.0, the use of Balinese language has decreased. Thus, the position of the Balinese language as the mother tongue of the Balinese has shifted. It motivates students, academics, linguists, writers and others to encourage Balinese language to be included in Wikipedia. It is expected that it will introduce Balinese language and culture to the world, as well as increase the interest of Balinese language learners, either locally or internationally. It can be concluded that inclusion of the Balinese language in Wikipedia can be easily accessed on the Balinese language Wikipedia. The learners can easily access and obtain information about Balinese Language and Culture. This is expected to preserve and maintain Balinese Language and Culture.

2. RESEARCH METODOLOGY

The research methods covers data collection methods and techniques, data analysis methods and techniques, as well as methods and techniques for presenting the results of data analysis (Sudaryanto, 1993). The data collection

method used in this research was the library method and the interview method with advanced techniques, namely note-taking techniques. The library method was used to find related data to Balinese Wikipedia, then supported by interviews with students, academics, linguists and Balinese language writers to obtain data. The data were recorded and classified. After the data have been classified, the data were analyzed using the equivalent method, namely the determining tool outside, detached and not part of the language (langue) itself (Sudaryanto, 1993), using descriptive techniques. Methods and techniques for presenting the results of data analysis was informal methods, namely presenting the results of the analysis using words and explanations (Sudaryanto, 1993).

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Regulation of the Governor of Bali

The Government of Bali designed a vision and mission aiming at protecting and preserving Balinese language and culture through Bali Governor Regulation No. 80 of 2018 concerning the Protection and Use of Balinese Language, Script and Literature as well as the Implementation of the Balinese Language Month. Furthermore, the Government issued Bali Governor Regulation Number 79 of 2018 concerning the Day of Wearing Balinese Traditional Clothing. There were due to the increasingly rapid development of the era of industrial evolution 4.0; the use of Balinese language began to be abandoned. The government designs various programs that can protect and preserve Balinese Language and Culture. The government issued the Balinese Language Month program. The Balinese Language Month is concided the various activities related to Balinese language, script and literature for one month throughout Bali. Balinese Language Month is used to hold competitions related to Balinese to increase interest and talent in using Balinese, such as Balinese MC competitions, Speeches, *Mesatwa* (storytelling), writing (writing script), poetry competitions and etc. Balinese Language Month activities must be attended by all parties, and these competitions are organized by the Government of Bali. In addition, the government also issued regulations so that all government agencies use Balinese language and wear Balinese traditional clothing on Thursdays. This is one of the government's efforts to preserve and maintain Balinese language and culture.

3.2 Balinese Wikipedia

Balinese Wikipedia is one of the breakthroughs made by Balinese students, academics, linguists, and writers to preserve and maintain Balinese language. Students, academics and others make an effort in order to Balinese language can be input and accessed on Wikipedia. Wikipedia is one of the international sites that can add and edit the web. Wikipedia contains a variety of information that can be freely accessed worldwide. Students, academics, linguists and writers come together and unite the mission to push Balinese language so that it can be accessed on Wikipedia. The association was given training by Wiki Media as a part of Wikipedia. Wiki Media training provided the participants training to increase their knowledge of how to incorporate Balinese language into Wikipedia. The event also invited other students of Balinese language majors or other majors who could understand Balinese language to join the event. It aimed to explain and socialize the Balinese language Wikipedia. At the training, students, academics, linguists, and Balinese language writers were invited to write in Balinese to increase their vocabulary and knowledge of Balinese language on the Balinese Wikipedia. In October 20th 2019, Balinese language Wikipedia has entered the Wikipedia Incubator or often called Beta. It was needed several more steps are fo Balinese language Wikipedia to be accessible to the public. Temporarily, the access to the Balinese language Wikipedia is quite limited. In order for the Balinese language to be accessible on public Wikipedia, it is expected that students, academics and

others will be more active in writing and adding vocabulary or knowledge about Balinese language and culture.

The inclusion of Balinese language in Wikipedia is expected to introduce Balinese language and culture around the world. Balinese language is expected to occupy the same position as Bahasa Indonesia, English and other languages in the world. Balinese Wikipedia is expected to increase the interest of readers and language learners to research and become more familiar with Balinese language and culture, both locally and internationally. For Balinese language learners, it is expected that it will be simpler to learn Balinese and gain access to Balinese language. As previously explained on Wikipedia, we can access, edit and add knowledge of Balinese language and culture, with the result that all elements of Balinese society can be feasible to add knowledge about Balinese language and culture.

3.3 Maintaining Balinese Language and Culture with Balinese Wikipedia

The mother tongue language maintenance can occur in a speech community that is monolingual or does not acquire another language (Komariyah and Ruriana, 2010:54). However, the absent of acquiring another language does not guarantee that a language can survive because nowadays people already know other languages besides their mother tongue. Therefore, the mother tongue can survive based on the dynamics of the speaking community in relation to the social, political, economic and cultural development of the local community. Besides that, the mother tongue language maintenance in an area can also be determined by the vulnerability of the speaking community to the process of urbanization, industrialization, language politics, and the level of mobility of the speaking community (Yuniarti, 2017: 40).

Balinese language and culture maintenance in Bali must be considered. As explained earlier, the Balinese people do not only use Balinese language to communicate, but also use Bahasa Indonesia and other foreign languages. This causes the Balinese people known as a bilingual society. A bilingual is someone who masters a language other than his mother tongue and uses that language continuously (Alwasilah, 1993:73). Consequently, the use of the Balinese language is decreasing as well as the knowledge of Balinese culture is decreasing due to the influx of western cultures into Bali by considering that Bali is a tourist area visited every day by domestic and international tourists. The visit affects society, so the use and knowledge of foreign languages is very important. Regardless of the importance of knowledge and mastery of foreign languages in the era of globalization, Balinese language, which is the mother tongue of the Balinese people, must be maintained so that it does not become extinct. The Balinese language is a characteristic of the island of Bali, not only Balinese, but other Balinese cultures must be preserved and maintained. With the inclusion of the Balinese language in Wikipedia, it is expected that this effort can increase job opportunities related to the Balinese language and culture. Hence, the Balinese people are aware of participating in maintaining the Balinese language and feel proud of using the Balinese language. Balinese Wikipedia is an innovation in the modern era of globalization, to simplify for learners or speakers to know and acquire knowledge about Balinese language and culture.

4. CONCLUSION

The decreasing of the use and knowledge of Balinese language and culture has made the Government of Bali has announced the vision and mission of *Nangun Sat Kerti Loka Bali* which means maintaining the sanctity and harmony of Balinese nature and its elements to live a prosperous and happy spiritually and concretely of Balinese people and environment in accordance with Bung Karno's Trisakti principles, namely political sovereignty, economic independence, and personality in culture. Additionally, the Government of Bali issued Bali Governor Regulation No. 80 of 2018 concerning the Protection and Use of Balinese Language, Script and

Literature as well as the Implementation of a Balinese Language Month and Bali Governor Regulation Number 79 of 2018 concerning Day for the Use of Balinese Traditional Clothing to preserve Balinese Language and Culture. Beside the government, the students, academics, literary experts and other parties make an effort for the Balinese language to be included and accessible on Wikipedia. Wikipedia is one of the international sites that can add and edit the web. Wikipedia contains a variety of information that can be freely accessed worldwide. The inclusion of Balinese language in Wikipedia is expected to introduce Balinese language and culture around the world. Balinese language is expected to occupy the same position as Bahasa Indonesia, English and other languages in the world. Balinese Wikipedia is expected to increase the interest of readers and language learners to research and become more familiar with Balinese language and culture, both locally and internationally. For Balinese language learners, it is expected that it will be feasible for students to learn Balinese and gain simply access to Balinese. Wikipedia is one of the innovations in the 4.0 revolution era to preserve Balinese language and culture. It is expected that Balinese Wikipedia can support the Balinese language and culture maintenance in the era of globalization. Thus, Balinese language and culture can still exist and used continuously from generation to generation and has never been extinct.

Suggestion

The study of the Balinese Wikipedia as an effort to preserve and maintain the Balinese language and culture is still classified as superficial. Therefore, further research with other theories is needed. This research is expected contribute positively as a reference for further relevant research.

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