

A SYSTEM APPROACH TO BAHASA INDONESIA

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Abstract.

In the last few decades, there have been a lot of undesirable changes in Bahasa Indonesia. The undesirable changes occur through coining new words, borrowing words from other languages, especially English, blending Bahasa Indonesia words and acronymizing words. Bahasa Indonesia users seem to exercise their complete freedom in using language. There is no control in coining words, borrowing words, blending words, and acronymizing words. The loss of control that leads to free will and right to use Bahasa Indonesia has caused Bahasa Indonesia chaos. If the free will and free right are not curbed, there will certainly be greater chaos. System approach teaches that Bahasa Indonesia serves the function as an official language and a national language. This function has to be maintained and preserved. If individuals belonging to Bangsa Indonesia continue to exercise their free will and free right in using Bahasa Indonesia, it can be predicted that Bahasa Indonesia will change from Indonesian Identity to British Identity.

Keywords : system, coining, borrowing, blending

Introduction

Bahasa Indonesia languageniks, people who are very conscious about Bahasa Indonesia, may be greatly perplexed by the development of Bahasa Indonesia in the last few decades. A lot of changes have taken place in Bahasa Indonesia. Many words have been borrowed from foreign languages, especially English and Arabic. The examples below are only some of the foreign words that have been incorporated into Bahasa Indonesia. They are cited from Jawa Pos newspaper (July 10, 2013 and July 11, 2013) and from many television studios. These are some of the borrowed words: gadget, booth, transfer, update, direlokasi, embarkasi, eskalasi, pedophilia, runing untuk walikota, biker, highlights, newsflash, sportscaster, presenter, fans, jalan tol, hot match, hot news, hot sports, hotainment, illegal, download, newshow, morning show, live dari Madiun, global warming, perform, kolektan, culiner, culinologi, talkshow, pampers, backpack, monorail, mass rapid transportation, multi-level marketing, trafficking, akselerasi, commuter line, operator, jurnalis, headline, chatting, café, advertorial, sweeping, aliansi, dirilis, direnovasi, anomaly, real market, car free day, green n clean, marketing vacancy,

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boom sale, dimutilasi, dimutasi, breaking news, legislasi, regulasi, menseplai, jumbo, mengeksplor, berkolaborasi, edukasi, sniper, mendrive, krispi, herbal, rate, evakuasi, kondusif, member, laundry, customer, cash, hasilnya match, men-searching, marketing, travel, twitterland, launching, kru, resistansi, remunerasi, cast, break, shoot, scene, surprise, asesor, assessment, rubrik, delivery, dump truck, sparepart, sales, workshop, fair, retur, browsing, overload, overcapacity, wifi, treadmill, fitness, assess, roadshow, training, online, preventif, stakeholder, investor, kompetitif, komplain, instant, eksekusi, hearing, police line, down payment, akumulasi, mindset, fresh, treatment, spa, facial, creambath, entertainment, escalator, blacklist, playgroup, event, sharing, developer, gate, ranking, vanue, resign, rival, handicap, bujet, domestik, regulator, karteker, degradasi, ofensif, defensive, kontur, animasi, job, deal, dikonfirmasi, supervisor, stand-by, sif, iritasi, beradaptasi, konter, stok, enjoy, inovasi, security, ringroad, database, recovery, fogging, audisi, skill, and mall.

It can be predicted that the majority of Indonesian people do not understand the meaning of the words presented above. Only educated Indonesian people know them. The use of many English words in Bahasa Indonesia will certainly decrease the degree of informativeness of communication among Bahasa Indonesia communicants.

Creative construction by Bahasa Indonesia users also occurs in the field of word blending. Two or more words are blended into one word. The examples are: alkes (alat kesehatan), Akpol, It wasum, Irwassum, Korlantas, lansia (lanjut usia), caleg, Askes, juknis, bamus, pansus, tatib, satgas, kurma (kecepatan urai macet), timsus, babinkamtibmas, lapas karutan, rutan, napi, unas, Tekkomdik, Dikbud, kasi, pema (pendidikan Madrasah), panlok, humas, prodi (program studi), wadek (wakil Dekan), tupoksi (tugas pokok dan fungsi), pemkab, labfor, kades, jubir, pinsar (pusat informasi pasar), Perkedem (Pemilih untuk demokrasi), penca (penyandang cacat), sidarlih (sistem pemutakhiran data pemilihan), silpa (sisa lebih perhitungan anggaran), pekat (penyakit masyarakat), madin (madrasah diniyah), cabor (cabang olahraga), panpel (panitia pelaksana), demplot (demonstration plot), nopol (Nomor polisi), mobdin (mobil dinas), timses (tim sukses), sprindik, kanitjatanum, pendma (pendidikan madrasah), anjal (anak jalanan), Jakarnaval (Jakarta karnaval), calhaj (calon haji), orgil (orang gila), teknovasi, rusun, rusunawa, upal, and miras.

Blending distorts the nature of Bahasa Indonesia words. It obscures the nature of Bahasa Indonesia words. Probably many people already forget that the word bandara is from bandar udara, narkoba is from narkotika dan obat-obatan berbahaya.

Bahasa Indonesia is also thronged with newly-coined words, especially in the area of nomenclature. Some examples are: sensodyne, double dipp, vital ear oil, pesbookers, clavo, tokebi, juicer, hape, San Diego Hills, cito (city of tomorrow), sun city, Pakuwon city, Long beach,

polident, excel (XL), scootic, Surabaya Town Square, pocari sweat, mixagrip, rhema, chicken snack wrap, fiesta, rejoice, pantene, frestea, palmia, coboy junior, JKT 48, Honolulu koyo elektrik, olay, nutrijel, energen, biore, parmaton, sweetie, blackberry, youtube, twitter, bootduck, produgen, mixone, nivea, attack, catylac, pizza, kebab, woods, Lotte Mart, Indomart, Alfamart, Alfamidi, Global school, Giant hypermarket, Livina, Xenia, parodontax, digital school, power F, Mylanta, happycall, downy, Sun beach city, gery, smartfren, molto, ertiga, ibrite, prim-a, garnier, ever E, renovit, clear, dettol, maxx, polibest, pronas, enzym, six pack care, vitalis, magnum, zwitsal, greebel, superpell, ovale, Listerine, sleek, mama poko pants, lupomax, club, pure, glamour, aclonac, so nice, TRESemme, magic bullet, simis, walking machine, finer, pest reject, instyler, supergrandma, uchida, EZ hoover, lovamil, nutriboost, legiron, dirt bullet, SGM eksplor, eskulin, wipol, silky beauty, hydrococo, Tarriza, avian, nyus malam, K-24, Virtu 5 Konimag, prochiz, G-ner-G, Maybelline, V-shape, and educity.

There are no rules for coining new names. Coining depends on the free creativity of the coiners. As a result coined names sound funny.

Uncurbed free will to borrow words from other languages, especially English, to blend words of Bahasa Indonesia, to create new words for naming or to incorporate English structures into Bahasa Indonesia will lead to chaos in Bahasa Indonesia. Chaos in Bahasa Indonesia is certainly undesirable. Unfortunately, there are no laws that govern the use of Bahasa Indonesia by the citizens. There is only an appeal to use good and correct Bahasa Indonesia, but the appeal is very often unheeded. How can Bahasa Indonesia chaos be minimized? A system approach can be used to guide Indonesian citizens in using Bahasa Indonesia. This paper is to introduce the concept of system and to show how total freedom to use Bahasa Indonesia can be curbed or controlled.

Discussion

A System

A system is “an organic whole or organization with many subsystems having critical interconnections which receives resource inputs, transforms these inputs through a process according to the given goals of the organic whole or organization and then returns the outputs to the environment or society” (Zwaenepoel, 1980: 59). There are very important properties or features in a system. They are: an organic whole, subsystems, system boundaries, linkages, input, process, output, stress and tensions, system stability, mutual influence, and feedback (Zwaenepoel, 1980: 59-62).

1. An Organic Whole

A system is an entirety, a unity, a whole, or a oneness. A system has parts or elements, or components that belong to a whole. These elements or components are interconnected and interdependent and are

equally important in their respective roles. No part or component is separate from the other components. There is a sense of oneness in a system.

2. Subsystems

A subsystem is a small system within a bigger system. In a large system or macro system, a sub system may be composed of subsystems. The macro system of the Indonesian government has, among others, the following subsystems: Home Affairs, Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security, Justice, Communication and Information, Finance, Industry, Trade, Agriculture, Energy, Forestry, Public Works, Tourism and Creative Economy, Cooperatives and Middle-Scale Business, Manpower and Transmigration, Education and Culture, Public Health, Religious Affairs, Social Affairs, Pubic Housing Affair, Human Environment, Youth and Sport Affairs, Parliament, Public Prosecutions, People's Advisory Assembly, State Secretariat, and Law and Human Rights.

Every subsystem has its own function. The functions served by the subsystems together constitute the total function of the whole system. The total function of the Indonesian government is "to protect the whole nation of Indonesia and the whole motherland of Indonesia, and to promote the welfare of the whole nation, to promote literacy of the whole nation, and to partake in the implementation of world order that is based on freedom, long-lasting peace, and social justice" (Adisutrisno, 2003: 15).

3. System Boundaries

There are boundaries among the subsystems. Parts or components that belong to a subsystem are identifiably different from those that belong to other subsystems. Parts belonging to the Defense and Security subsystem are different from the elements of the Trade or the Home Affairs subsystem.

4. Linkages

The subsystems of a bigger system are interrelated, interconnected, or interlinked with one another. The interconnectedness among subsystems is achieved mostly through a functional relationship. The total function of the system is carried out by the functions of the subsystems. Linkages constitute part of the system process.

5. Inputs

A system receives inputs from the society or from the environment. "Inputs comprise the various ingredients and resources which are needed to make the internal process work and function." (Zwaenepoel, 1980: 60 in Adisutrisno, 2003: 8). The macro system of the Indonesian government receives the following kinds of inputs from the society: the human resource inputs, the cultural resource inputs, the economic or financial resource inputs, the political resource inputs, the technological resource inputs, and the physical resource inputs. These

inputs are called ingoing energies. They are necessary for the functionality of the subsystems.

6. Process

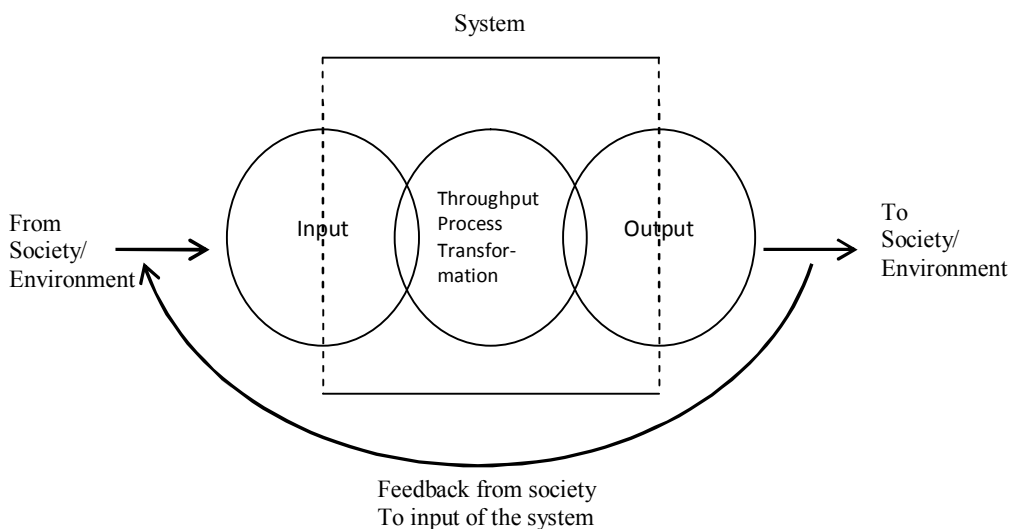
Process is also called transformation process or throughput. Process refers to the functionality, the working, or the operation of the subsystems. In the government macro system of Indonesia, the human resource inputs transform the financial resource inputs, the cultural resource inputs, the political resource inputs, and the technological resource inputs to approximate and accomplish the national goal. The transformation process is guided by the objectives, aims, and goals of the macro system. Process refers to the activities of the human resource inputs in transforming inputs to produce outputs. Larson-Freeman and Cameron (2008: 25) refer process to “change”. According to them change is the most important feature of a complex system. A system is always in flux all the time.

7. Outputs

Outputs refer to the product or accomplishment of the system. Outputs equal inputs that have gone the process. Outputs return back to the society or environment. In Indonesia, the outputs of the subsystem of Education and Culture are stated as follows:

“The national education which is based on Pancasila (the Five Principles) aims at promoting devotion to the one God, literacy and skills, promoting character strengthening personality, and strengthening spirit of nationalism and the love of the motherland, in order to produce individuals for development who are capable of developing themselves and are together responsible for the development of the nation”. (Adisutrisno, 2003: 18-19). Outputs are called outgoing energies.

A system can be represented as: (Adisutrisno, 2003: 11)



8. Stress and Tensions

In a system that involves a social subsystem, stress and tensions may occur. A social subsystem consists of individuals who have different personalities, mental traits, styles of thinking, ways of behaving, aspirations, expectations, and interests. These differences cause individuals to do different activity tendencies that lead to stress and tensions. For example, in the subsystem of Education and Culture, a new curriculum which is called Curriculum 2013 is going to be implemented, but there are voices of rejection with different reasons. In the manpower subsystem, labourers stage demonstrations to demand higher wages but factory authorities cannot fulfill their demands.

9. System Stability

A system needs harmony and stability in order to achieve the objectives, aims, and goals of the system. Stability is attained when there is a cooperative action among the functionally-related subsystems. A cooperative action will be achieved if all individuals direct their actions toward the attainment of the system's goals, aims, and objectives. An example of cooperative action is when Aceh was struck by a very destructive earthquake that caused a lot of fatalities, injuries, and damages, individuals sent different kinds of contributions to help to restore the condition. Another example of cooperative action is the plan by the government to pour a very great sum of money to Papua to accelerate development.

System stability is also achieved through the system's adaptability to the changing environment. Adaptability to the changing environment results in the system's equilibrium.

10. Mutual Influence

Interconnectedness among subsystems through functional relationship brings about mutual influence among the subsystems. A change in one subsystem will cause a change in the other subsystems. Improvement in one system will result in improvement in other subsystems. Deterioration occurring to one subsystem will inflict other subsystems. For example, profiteering in the subsystem of economy causes profiteering in other subsystems. Curtailment in one subsystem causes curtailment in other subsystems.

11. Feedback

A system exists in the society or environment. It is part of the society. It receives human resource inputs, economic or financial resource inputs cultural resource inputs, political resource inputs and technological resource inputs in order to be transformed to produce outputs that approximate the system's objectives, aims, and goals. If the system underperforms or does not function efficiently and effectively, there can be reactions from environment or society. Reaction from the society concerning with the functionality of the system is called the feedback. For example, when prices of food stuffs are soaring now, there

is feedback from concerned individuals that the government has misdirected the development. In its efforts to transform the country into an industrialized country, the system has neglected the role of agriculture as support for the country's economy. As a result, when food stuffs are scarce, prices of food stuffs are uncontrollably escalating and society suffers. Lately, there have been many kinds of feedback that enter the government macro system to improve its working or functionality.

A system is an organic whole with interacting parts that influence one another, transforms resource inputs to produce outputs that approximate system's objectives, aims, and goals.

A System Approach to Bahasa Indonesia

As has been stated earlier, process, transformation, or change is the most important feature of a system. Bahasa Indonesia, which belongs to the cultural subsystem is also in flux. It is in a state of changing, a state of becoming, or a state of developing. Changes in Bahasa Indonesia are desirable if they accord with the goals of the macro system of Indonesian society. To see whether changes that have taken place in Bahasa Indonesia accord with the macro system's goals, aims, and objectives, it is of paramount importance to consider the role of Bahasa Indonesia in the Indonesian society. In the Indonesian society Bahasa Indonesia serves the functions as an official language and a national language.

An official language is language which is used for official purposes in government affairs. It is the language which is used in all subsystems of the macro system, like law, information, education, agriculture, economy, public works, public health, finance, energy, forestry, defense and others. For communication to be effective, Bahasa Indonesia vocabularies or words must be known by Bahasa Indonesia communicants throughout Indonesia. Too many borrowed words from English, some are presented in the introduction, will downgrade the degree of intelligibility, or informativeness, or communicativeness of Bahasa Indonesia. Communicants do not fully understand each other. There is communication breakdown.

In fact, borrowing English words can be avoided if individuals abide by Bahasa Indonesia. There is pemindahan for transfer, berita terkini for update, dipindah ke tempat lain for direlokasi, bandar udara pemberangkatan for embarkasi, kenaikan for eskalasi, secara seksual tertarik pada anak kecil for pedophilia, ikut pemilihan for running, penggemar bersepeda for biker, bagian terpenting for highlights. It seems that the uncurbed free will to borrow words from English is caused by ignorance that Bahasa Indonesia is an official language.

An official language is a formal language. A formal language is language that adheres to the rules of words, rules of grammar and rules of pronunciation. Blended words destroy the nature of words of Bahasa Indonesia. Words have conceptual meaning. Blending words causes words to lose their true existence and their conceptual meaning. It is quite

probable that almost all of the individuals belonging to the macro system of Indonesian society do not know the following blended words: alkes, bamus, kurma, babinkamtibmas, tekkomdik, pema, panlok, prodi, wadek, tupoksi, labfor, pinsar, perludem, penca, sidarlih, silpa, pekat, madin, cabor, panpel, demplot, sprindik, kanitjatamem, pendma, anjal, calhaj, and orgil. Like borrowing, blending, downgrades the degree of intelligibility of language use. Blending also downgrades the degree of formality of Bahasa Indonesia. It also gives additional burden to the young generation that is learning Bahasa Indonesia. Like borrowing, blending is also caused by ignorance that Bahasa Indonesia is an official language.

The degradation of the formality of Bahasa Indonesia is also caused by word coining. The name Nyus Malam is a phrase that consists of an English word news and Bahasa Indonesia word malam. The combination of English words and Bahasa Indonesia words makes the words informal or non-standard. It is coupled by writing news by using Bahasa Indonesia spelling system. The result is Nyus Malam. The name Musiclicious is a borrowed and blended word from English. It is probably from music and delicious. The words are English but they are combined according to Bahasa Indonesia grammar rule called DM, diterangkan-menerangkan. The name green n clean is also informal. The name Honolulu koyo elektrik is a name with an English structure. The standard Bahasa Indonesia structure is Koyo elektrik Honolulu. The name hydro coco is an English word in Bahasa Indonesia structure, air kelapa. The standard English structure is coco hydro.

Uncontrolled word formation processes through coining, borrowing, blending, and acronymizing have caused Bahasa Indonesia to change greatly to an undesirable direction.

As a national language, Bahasa Indonesia serves the function to unite the people and to show national identity. As a lingua franca, Bahasa Indonesia has a role to unite Indonesian citizens that belong to different ethnic groups with different vernacular languages. The uniting force of Bahasa Indonesia will be greatly facilitated if Bahasa Indonesia is intelligible to all Indonesian citizens. Mutual intelligibility in language use reduces social distance. Individuals feel close to one another. On the contrary, mutual unintelligibility in language use may separate citizens. The feeling of oneness diminishes or weakens. Accordingly, the host of borrowed words, blended words, and acronymized words that now exist in Bahasa Indonesia and reduce the degree of mutual intelligibility will not facilitate the uniting function of Bahasa Indonesia. The free will to borrow words, to blend words, to acronymize, and probably to clip words must be controlled if necessary, regulated.

As a national language, Bahasa Indonesia also serves the functions to show national identity. The word national refers to the stretch of archipelagos from Sabang to Merauke with its myriad contents. The word identity refers to things that show who somebody is or what

something is. Bahasa Indonesia must show the world that the archipelagos from Sabang to Merauke with its myriad contents constitute Indonesia.

To function effectively as a national identity, it is necessary that Bahasa Indonesia vocabularies or words be as indigenous as possible. Names like San Diego Hills, Sun beach City, Pakuwon City, Sun City, City of Tomorrow (Cito), Surabaya Town Square, Maspion Square, Giant Hypermarket, Long Beach, and East Coast, are not indigenous. They do not belong to Indonesia. They belong to other countries. They do not foster Bahasa Indonesia as a national identity. Instead, they undermine Bahasa Indonesia as a national identity. Similarly, all borrowed words such as transfer, update, relokasi, embarkasi, reklamasi, eskalasi, highlights, sports caster, presenter, kuliner, live, aliansi, jurnalis, sweeping, rilis, renovasi, mutasi, kolaborasi, sniper, and evakuasi, are not indigenous. These borrowed words do not show the national identity of Indonesia. They show British identity.

There may be a strong argument for borrowing English words, such as when the words are technical, like reklamasi. But almost all of the borrowed words are not technical. Dirilis may be expressed in dibebaskan, diumumkan, ditayangkan, dijual or dikeluarkan depending on the context of word use. In many cases, there is no strong reason for borrowing English words.

Newly coined words like Nyus Malam, Nyus Pagi, and Musiclicious destroy the nature of English words. These words also undermine Bahasa Indonesia as a national identity.

There is a television program showing children, boys and girls, with their life's ideals. In the program, a boy says that when he grows up, he wants to speak Bahasa Indonesia that is mixed with English. The television programmers encourage children in Indonesia to study Bahasa Indonesia and English in order to be able to speak Bahasa Indonesia which is mixed with English. The ability to speak Bahasa Indonesia that is mixed with English is considered a success in learning and pride in life. This is saddening. This television program clearly shows that educated young people that belong to the present generation do not know the role of Bahasa Indonesia as an official language and national identity. Preservation and desirable development of Bahasa Indonesia cannot be expected from individuals who do not know the role of Bahasa Indonesia as an official and national language.

Conclusion

Bahasa Indonesia has changed greatly through coining new words, borrowing words from other languages, blending words, and acronymizing words. But many of the changes are undesirable according to Bahasa Indonesia languageniks. Bahasa Indonesia languageniks believe that the undesirable development occurs because individuals exercise their free will and right in using Bahasa Indonesia. The exercise

of free will and right in the use of Bahasa Indonesia results in language chaos or language anarchy.

To prevent further chaos in Bahasa Indonesia, exercise of free will and right by individuals must be curbed. System approach can be used to curb free will and right in language use. According to the system approach, Bahasa Indonesia, which belongs to the cultural subsystem, serves the function as an official language and a national language. All individuals belonging to Bangsa Indonesia must always remember these functions. The Department of Education and Culture must continually clamor the function of Bahasa Indonesia as an official language and national language. If free will and right continue to be exercised by individuals, it can be predicted that in 100 years Bahasa Indonesia may change from Indonesian identity to British Identity.

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