



Vocal and Consonant PAN Features in Nias and Sigulai Languages



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Abstract

This paper aims at describing the features of vowels and PAN consonants in Nias and Sigulai languages, as well as their comparison bit of Devayan Language. The three languages were used as objects for comparing between Nias and Sigulai language that was spoken in two different islands mastering enough similarity compared Sigulai Language with Devayan Language although both (Sigulai and Devayan Language) performed on the same island, i.e. Simeulue Island. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the vowels and PAN consonants degrade many forms and in different ways in derivatives language, i.e. languages of Nias, Sigulai, and Devayan. Nias language and Sigulai language shows fairly closely than in the Devayan Language. That was the consonants features of the Austronesian language and vowels can evidence its existence in Nias language and Sigulai language. The qualitative evidence that could be concluded from the above comparison was: (1) the sound was inherited linearly *i is a vowel and * u * l * g consonant. (2) The sound experience is fading *s/*S, *c, *y, *k, *q, and *h; (3) sound inherited linearly once-fading and change was * e> ə, o, and u; * A> a, o; * P> f, b; * B> f, w / v; * M> m, Ø; * > W, b; * T> t, d; * D> d, l, n; * N> g, k; * R / * R> r, l, Ø; * N> ɲ, n; * Z> j, l; and * ɲ> ɲ, Ø. The changes were varied in point three took place on the third syllable and a different position. All types of changing, it turned out all the lexicons PAN closed syllable, experiencing consonant deletion at any syllable in Nias language and particularly Sigulai language.

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1. Introduction

The languages in the small islands for some literature mentioned as a language i.e. open syllable (see Catford 1988, Crowley 2010). It can be seen e.g. in the languages included Fiji, Hawaii, Tongan, Samoan, Raratongan,

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and Nias. E.g. *tansik > taði (Fiji), kai (Hawaii), tahi (Tongan), tai (Samoan), tai (Raratongan), nasi (Nias). On Nias Language, the open syllable pattern was found in the whole lexicon. Even Indonesia lexicon which closed syllable (K) VK) was spoken by the open syllable ((K) V), e.g. Telukdalam (the name of a district in Nias) spoken by native speakers with [təludala], sabtu [satu], tinggal [tiga].

Regarding above phenomenon, it turns out that language system of open syllable was found as well as in Sigulai Language on the Simeulue Island. Unlike it is known, Simeulue Island is part of the Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) Province that is located about 150 km from the west coast of Aceh and Sinabang capital. However, the language was spoken not similar to Aceh language (see also the results of research by Tim Balai Bahasa Banda Aceh 2012, *Inilah bahasa-bahasa di Aceh*). Their results mention that there are two languages in Simeulue Island i.e. Devayan and Sigulai Language. Devayan Language formerly called Simalar language (Esser in Kridalaksana 2008), whereas, Sigulai/Lamamek Language is called Sichule. The local society said that on the island more than two languages are spoken, included Leukon and Jamu languages. The latter is similar to Jamek language that spoken in Tapak Tuan NAD.

The lexicon with open syllables found in Bahasa Sigulai (BS) has similarities with Bahasa Nias (BN), although it is also found a lexicon with closed syllables in the language. When it is viewed in geography side, Nias and Simeulue Island are two islands quite far away, even though they were in the west of Sumatra. Some of the vocabulary is similar, e.g. *tansik > nahi dalam BS; *asu > nasu (BN) dan nahu (BS); *puta > futa (BN) dan butan (BS); *takut > ata'u (BN) dan ataot (BS). Ataot lexicon is also known in Devayan Language on Simeulue Island. Widayati (2016) stated that 200 Swadesh vocabulary list, has found 117 lexicons of BS (59%) similar to the BN (papers was presented at the International Congress MLI 24 to 27 August 2016 in Bali). The percentage amount into a hypothesis for researchers that BS is part of BN. The resemblance of the languages needs further study on the migration of ethnic Nias to Simeulue island or indeed BS inherited traits syllable languages of small islands as disclosed above.

Historically the Nias people has been migrated to the Simeulue island. They got the land from the king of the island. The land that they acquired was named Salang, which means in Malay 'borrow'. Salang and Sigulai languages used by the Salang society contain many elements of BN (see C.M. Kan and Posthumus, 1881 and Beekman et al, 1917). Salang language is no longer known today, however, BS better was known. However, a lexicon Salang, now the name of a sub-district in the Nasreuhe capital of Simeulue Island.

In this paper, the researchers just take words unlike both (Nias and Sigulai) to describe how the features vowels and consonants PAN in Nias and Sigulai languages. Furthermore, it is also paired with Bahasa Devayan (BD), which are also found on the Simeulue Island. The goal is to observe a similar form with the three languages PAN and strengthen proximity BS with BN. For noting, described Nias language lexicon is not distinguished whether South Nias or North Nias dialects.

2. Research Method

In order to analyze how the vowels and consonants PAN feature in BN and BS used a method of diachronic comparison or comparative historical. The lexicon that related hypothesized to originate from the same proto-language. The similarity of form and meaning contained in the words of relatives is not accidental or a loan, however, due to continuing characteristics proto-language of semantic primes. Grimm and Verner Law used as a basis for analyzing the regularity of the sounds of language are related. This regularity among others can be evidenced from the reflexes their proto-language in their derivatives language. The sound Reflex of Protolanguage is analyzed on each syllable and its position. Thus, it would seem proto-language features belongs intentionally or innovation.

3. Results and Analysis

3.1 Vocal PAN features in Nias and Sigulai language

a) PAN Features * i

In ultima syllables, * i still appear as / i / in BN and BS. Likewise on the penultimate syllable words disyllabic.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|-------|------|----------|-----------|--------------|
| *ipən | nifə | nifə | ehen | Tooth/gigi |
| *iluŷ | ilo | ilo | cilol | Saliva/ludah |
| *inum | minu | (maŋ)inu | (maŋ)inom | Drink/minum |

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<https://sloap.org/journals/index.php/ijllc/article/view/142>

| | | | | |
|--------|------|------|-------|-------------|
| *hijun | nixu | nixu | ihonj | Nose/hidung |
| *aŋin | naŋi | naŋi | aŋin | Wind/angin |
| *waRih | hari | hari | balal | Day/hari |

Based on the above data it appears that BS is more alike to BN than BD. The evidence shows that the lexicon of BD, especially, in the lexicon *balal* and *ehen* derived from different *etimon*.

b) Features PAN * u

In the ultima syllables, *u still appear as /u/ in BN and BS. Likewise on the penultimate syllable words disyllabic.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|-----------|-------------|-----------------|
| *bunuh | bunu | bunu | bunuh | Kill/bunuh |
| *buŋa | buŋa | buŋa | buŋo | Flower/bunga |
| *manuk | manu | manu-manu | manok-manok | Bird/burung |
| *buluŋ | bulu | bulu | buluŋ | Leaf/daun |
| *buSuk | obou | obou | afuruk | Bad smell/busuk |

In BN, the lexicon */manul* has undergone a shift in meaning to 'ayam/chicken'. For the meaning of 'burung/bird' Nias societies use the lexicon */fofol*. In the lexicon *buSuk > *obou*, occur a deletion process of *S* and lengthening the vowel /u/, one of them turned into /o/, and then adding a vowel at the initial position.

c) PAN Features * e

PAN *e inherit two distinct features in the BN and BS, the feature [+ front, + middle] and the [+ rear, + middle] the ultima and penultimate syllables in BN and BS.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|---------|----------|----------|----------|-------------|
| *empat | əfa | əfa | ampek | Four/empat |
| *ipen | nifə | nifə | ehen | Tooth/gigi |
| *telu | təlu | təlu | təlufo | Three/tiga |
| *beRŋin | boŋi | axemi | bəŋi | Night/malam |
| *keRiŋ | okəli | kəreŋ | kəriŋ | Dry/kering |
| *nahe | ahe | gae | kae | Foot/kaki |
| *hitem | aitə | aifə | mətəm | Black/hitam |
| *beRey | (ma)me'e | (ma)fe'e | (maŋ)eba | Giver/beri |
| *beRat | abua | abua | aforat | Heavy/berat |

In the lexicon *beRŋin, vocal *e experience an innovation becomes /o/, /ə/ [+belakang, + middle] in BN and BS. The meaning of 'berat/heavy' in three languages than the above experience two different forms of innovation. On the BN and BS innovation happens is *R dan *t vanished followed by the strengthening of the vocals being * e> high vocal /u/ in the syllable penultimate and pro-tesis /a/, while *beRat > *aforat* in BD, besides getting pro-tesis /a/, also occur an innovation * b> f and * e> o.

d) PAN Features *a

PAN *a passing linearly /a/ and also innovative /o/ on the ultima and penultimate syllables of BN and BS.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|------|-------|-------------|
| *abu | nawu | navu | abu | Dust/abu |
| *asu | asu | nahu | asu | Dog/anjing |
| *anak | ono | nono | anak | Child/anak |
| *daRah | do | do | dalah | Blood/darah |
| *tanah | tanə | danə | lanca | Land/tanah |
| *taŋan | daŋa | daŋa | kaok | Hand/tangan |

In the above table looks inheritance PAN *a linear of *abu, *asu, dan *tañan, whereas inherited innovatively /o/ showing at the *anak, *daRah, dan *tanah. Regarding *anak, *a in the penultimate syllable turned into /o/ followed the sounds harmonization in the ultima syllables > ono. * Likewise with *daRah, the consonant *R experience syncope and followed shortening of the long vowel /a:/ and then changed to /o/ towards *tanah only occurred a change of *a in the ultima syllable > ə.

e) PAN Diphthong Features *uy, *ey, *ay

Diphthong *uy, *ey, and *ay in PAN turned into monophthongs in BN and BS, i.e. *uy > i (BN, BS); *ey dan *ay > e (BN, BS), however, not in BD. In BD *uy> remain as a diphthong vowel /u/ [+ high] innovative features become a feature /o/ [+ middle].

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|----------|----------|----------|---------------|
| *apuy | alitə | naitə | ahoy | Fire/api |
| *lanuy | molaŋi | lumalaŋi | malaŋoy | Swim/berenang |
| *beRey | (ma)me'e | (ma)fe'e | (maŋ)əba | Give/beri |
| *qatey | gate | ede | ate | Care/hati |
| *matay | mate | mate | matay | Dead/mati |

However, the glossary 'api' BN and BS does not inherit from *apuy, however, on the other *etimon* (presumably *pelita). Only BD which still retains its characteristic of their diphthong of innovative changes *p > h.

3.2 Some consonants PAN features in the Bahasa Nias (BN) and Bahasa Sigulai (BS)

a) Bilabial consonant features

[1] Consonants PAN features *p

PAN * p bequeath innovative /f/ in BN; /f/ and /b/ in the BS in the initial and medial position. That is, BN and BS experience innovation together than BD still inherit *p linearly.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|-------|-------|------------|
| *puta | futa | butan | putar | Turn/belok |
| *empat | əfa | əfa | ampek | Four/empat |

The other evidence that proves innovation jointly between BN and BS is found the lexicon *lapaR > olofo (BN, BS), *lipan > alifa (BN) dan galifa (BS).

[2] Consonants PAN features *b

PAN * b bequeath linearly in the BN, especially in the initial position also includes BD. However, in the initial position BS *b> f. In the middle position *b in BN experience innovation > w, as well as in BS *b> w/v.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|--------|-------|-------------|
| *baru | baru | baru | baro | New/baru |
| *batu | batu | batu | batu | Stone/Batu |
| *berat | abua | aforat | abua | Heavy/berat |
| *bunuh | bunu | fabunu | bunuh | Kill/bunuh |
| *bulan | bawa | bawa | bawa | Moon/bulan |
| *abu | nawu | navu | abu | Dust/abu |
| *babah | bawa | bakba | bafa | Mouth/mulut |
| *bəbak | uli | bebek | bebek | Skin/kulit |

[3] Consonants PAN features *m

Consonant PAN *m in the initial position to be inheritance linearly in BN, BS, as well as BD especially, at the beginning of each syllable. However, on every closed syllable *m experiencing fading > Ø in BN and

BS. This deletion does not occur on the BD. That is, BN and BS experience innovation together compared to BD.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| *manuk | manu | manu-manu | manok-manok | Bird/Burung |
| *maŋa | maŋa | maŋa | maŋan | Eat/Makan |
| *empat | əfa | əfa | ampek | Four/Empat |
| *lima | lima | lima | limo | Five/Lima |
| *hitem | aitə | aifə | mətəm | Black/Hitam |
| *inum | minu | (maŋ)inu | (maŋ)inom | Drink/Minum |

[4] Consonants PAN features *w

The features of consonants PAN *w cleaved into /w/ and /b/ in BN. Despite the split, the feature [+ bilabial] still persist in their derivatives language, i.e. BN. Features *w last seen in the lexicon *sawah, while others experience an innovation lexicon, either change or deletion. Clearly, observe the following table.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|-------|-------|---------|------------|
| *wakaR | wa'a | lali | ollor | Root/akar |
| *waRih | hari | hari | balal | Day/hari |
| *awolo | ebolo | ebolo | afələle | Wide/lebar |
| *sawah | sawa | awa | sawa | Snake/ular |

b) Alveolar consonants features

[1] Consonants PAN features *t

The features of consonant PAN *t retaining the features [+ alveolar] itself. Only the feature [-voice]> [+ voice]. As well, a common characteristic of BN that is always deletion a consonant in the ultima closed syllable. Lodging in lexicon *tamata, BN does not inherit the etimon. The linear and innovative inheritance is seen in the table below.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|---------|-------|-------|--------|--------------|
| *takut | ata'u | ataot | ataot | Afraid/takut |
| *tanah | tanə | danə | lanca | Land/tanah |
| *taŋan | daŋa | daŋa | kaok | Hand/tangan |
| *tamata | niha | nata | Ata | People/orang |
| *tata | ahatə | atə | akən | Near/dekat |
| *puta | futa | butan | putar | Around/putar |
| *qatey | gate | ede | Ate | Care/hati |
| *empat | əfa | əfa | ampek | Four/empat |
| *berat | abua | abua | aforat | Heavy/berat |

[2] Consonants PAN features *d

The consonant PAN *d lowering the three variations in the BN, that is /d/ ~ /t/ ~ /l/, BS as well as there are three variations, i.e. /d/ ~ /l/ ~ and /n/. Although derived consonant is different, the basic features of PAN *d is still maintained, the feature [+ alveolar]. While in BD there are only two variations i.e. /d/ and /t/. The details can be seen in the following table.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|-------|-------|--------------|
| *duwa | duwa | domba | dufo | Two/dua |
| *dauh | arəu | adəu | arao | Far/jauh |
| *dilah | lela | lela | dilah | Tongue/lidah |
| *dada | dədə | nalə | dado | Chest/dada |

[3] Consonants PAN features *n

The features [+ alveolar, + nasal] PAN *n bequeath linearly and innovative in BN and BS, as well as BD. The innovative feature has been seen on the lexicon *nahe > *gae* and *kae*. The features [+ alveolar, + nasal] turned into > feature [+ velar, + stop]. It is illustrated in the following sample data.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|-----------|-------------|-------------|
| *angin | naŋi | naŋi | aŋin | Wind/angin |
| *anak | ono | nono | anak | Child/anak |
| *manuk | manu | manu-manu | manok-manok | Bird/burung |
| *nahe | gahe | gae | kae | Foot/kaki |
| *ina | ina | mak | əmmak | Mother/ibu |

Regarding BN PAN *ina to be inheritance linearly, whereas, BS and BD lexicons *mak* and *əmmak* derived from different etimon, instead of *ina.

[4] Consonants PAN features *s/S

The features PAN *s/*S [+ alveolar, fricative +] passing linearly especially in initial and medial position, however, experience a deletion in the final position in BN.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|-------|------|---------|-----------------|
| *asa | sara | amba | sao | One/satu |
| *tipis | nifi | nifi | manehe? | Thin/tipis |
| *basaq | abasə | abaə | afasə | Wet/basah |
| *asep | sibo | imbo | təbəl | Fog/asap |
| *asu | asu | nahu | asu | Dog/anjing |
| *buSuk | obou | obou | afuruk | Bad smell/busuk |

The lexicon *amba* in BS derived from *asa + buah > *sabuah*. This lexicon consists of in BN unlike *Sambua* 'sebuah'. In BS, PAN *asa + *buah experience a change > sa + bua > sabua > infixes m > Sambua (BN) and > amba (BS). On * sambua, *s > Ø and followed diphthongs ua > a, so that the lexicon was lowered to *amba*. Moreover, the interesting is the lexicon *asu* turns down of verbs 'berburu/hunting', i.e. *mameasu* (BN), *mameahu* (BS) and *mangasu* (BD).

[5] Consonants PAN features *l

Basically, PAN *l to be inheritance linearly in BN, BS, and BD. However, the deletion that is sporadic may occur, e.g. *lebu > *ebua* and *eba* in BN and BS.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|----------|------------|-------------|------------------|
| *tali | tali | dali | tali | Rope/tali |
| *lebu | ebua | eba | aləfo | Big/besar |
| *lima | lima | lima | limo | Five/lima |
| *buluŋ | bulu | bulu | buluŋ | Leaf/daun |
| *laŋuy | (mo)laŋi | (luma)laŋi | (luma)laŋoy | Swim/berenang |
| *sawah | sawa | awa | sawa | Rice Field/sawah |
| *ular | ulə | -- | -- | Snake/ular |

Unlike the previous explanation, glossed *ular/snakes* descended from PAN *sawah on BN, BS, and BD. Likewise, in BN recognize more than one etimon for glosses 'ular'. Besides *sawa*, BN as well as know a lexicon *ulə* derived from <*ular.

[6] Consonants PAN features *r/R

The consonant PAN *r and *R lowering the same voice that is / r /, / l / and Ø well in the initial position, medial or final on BN and BS. It can be seen details in the following sample data.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|----------|----------|-----------|---------------|
| *daRah | do | do | dalah | Blood/darah |
| *beRey | (ma)me'e | (ma)fe'e | maṅəba | Give/beri |
| *wakaR | wa'a | lali | ollor | Root/akar |
| *baru | baru | baru | baro | New/baru |
| *aliR | (ma)ele | ahani | (ma)aler | Flow/alir |
| *roŋo | roŋo | Loŋo | (ma)enṅal | Ear/dengar |
| *sira | asio | Naiya | asila | Salt/garam |
| *niRu | niru | Nilu | aliṅka | Imitate/nyiru |

c) Consonants palatal features *ɲ, *c, *z, and *y

The consonants palatal features *ɲ, *c, *z, dan *y of the collected data is quite rare. The consonant PAN *ɲ down two sounds, i.e. /ɲ/ and /n/ in the initial and medial position. Although, the both different remain inherits mastering the same features of [+nasal] for instance:

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|-------|------|------|--------|---------------|
| *ɲapi | ɲapi | ɲapi | ɲapi | Sing/nyanyi |
| *niRu | niru | nilu | aliṅka | Imitate/nyiru |

The features of consonants PAN *c rarely found from the data. It merely one example which can be analyzed that *c experiencing fading in BN, BS, and BD, i.e.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|-------|-----|------|---------|-----------|
| *cium | uma | Umma | maṅiṅke | Kiss/cium |

Unlike in term of consonant PAN other inheritance, *Z also experienced innovation in the language of the revelation, i.e. *Z > j, l irregular. *Lala* lexicon can be derived from the proto lexicon **dalan*. This term still requires further research.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|---------------|--------------|------|-------|-------------|
| *qiZau | hijo/owuge'e | Ijo | hijau | Green/hijau |
| *Zalan/*dalan | lala | Lala | dalan | Walk/jalan |

The consonant PAN *y as well as experience a deletion. In the lexicon below, in addition, *y vanished, there is also the process of metathesis towards BS.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|---------|---------|---------|-------------|
| *tiyup | mo(tiu) | ma(ipu) | (ma)iop | Blow/meniup |

d) Consonant velar features

[1] Consonants PAN feature *k

PAN consonant *k among in initial position, medial, and final encounter fading in BN, however, it is not in BS and BD, especially in the final position.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------------|
| *takut | ata'u | ataot | ataot | Afraid/takut |
| *buk | bu | bu | bok | Fur/bulu |
| *anak | ono | nono | anak | Child/anak |
| *kutu | utu | autu | utu | Louse/kutu |
| *kulit | uli | -- | -- | Skin/kulit |
| *bəbak | -- | bebek | bebek | |

[2] Consonants PAN features *g

The consonant PAN *g remained to be inheritance linearly in BS and BD.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------------|
| *dagiŋ | nagole | dagiŋ | dageŋ | Meat/daging |
| *gusuk | laduxu | gosok | gosok | Rub/gosok |

[3] Consonants PAN features *ŋ

The consonant PAN *ŋ just mastering a deletion in the final position, especially, in BN whereas, the BS appears sporadically in the final position, and BD still appears regularly at any position. It is illustrated in the following data:

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|------|--------|--------|------------|
| *tutuŋ | tunu | atutuŋ | tutuŋ | Burn/bakar |
| *aŋin | naŋi | naŋi | aŋin | Wind/angin |
| *buluŋ | bulu | bulu | buluŋ | Leaf/daun |
| *roŋo | roŋo | loŋo | maŋgal | Ear/dengar |

e) Glottal consonants feature *q and *h

There are two glottal consonants i.e. *q and *h who behave the same in its lowering on BN, BS, and BD. PAN *q and *h always disappeared in the BN and BS, among in position initial, medial, and final. PAN *q as well as vanished in BD, however, not with *h who remain in the final position in BD. See the following example.

| PAN | BN | BS | BD | Glos |
|--------|-------|----------|-------|--------------|
| *basaq | abasə | abaə | afasə | Wet/basah |
| *qatey | ate | ede | ate | Care/hati |
| *waRih | hari | hari | balal | Day/hari |
| *tanah | tanə | danə | lanca | Land/tanah |
| *bunuh | bunu | (fa)bunu | bunuh | Kill/bunuh |
| *daRah | do | do | dalah | Blood/darah |
| *hijun | ixu | nixu | ihon | Nose/hidung |
| *hitem | aifə | aifə | mətəm | Black/hitam |
| *hituŋ | erai | eton | eton | Count/hitung |

From the above lexicon comparison, it appears that BN inherit the same changes and it almost equal to the BS, however, the majority differ in BD.

4. Conclusion

The vowel and consonant sounds PAN degrade many forms and in different ways in the derivatives language, i.e. Nias, Sigulai, and Devayan Languages. Although Nias and Sigulai Language are spoken on two different islands, both still show a relation each other fairly closely than in the Devayan Language. That is, the features of the Austronesian language of consonants and vowels can prove its existence in Nias Language and Sigulai language. The qualitative evidence that can be concluded from the above comparison is: (1) The sound that is inherited linearly *i dan *u and consonants *l, *g. (2) The sound that experience fading is *s/*S, *c, *y, *k, *q, dan *h. (3) the sound that is inherited linearly once-deletion and change is *e > ə, o, and u; *a > a, o; *p > f, b; *b > f, w/v; *m > m, Ø; * > w, b; *t > t, d; *d > d, l, n; *n > g, k; *r/*R > r, l, Ø; *ŋ > j, l; dan *ŋ > ŋ, Ø. The changes are varied in point number three took place on the syllable at a different position. From all types of changes, it turns out all the lexicons PAN mastering closed syllable, experiencing consonant deletion at any their syllables in Nias Language and partly Sigulai Language.

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