

THE RELATIONSHIP OF THE FAMILY OF LANGUAGE IN EAST BARITO, CENTRAL KALIMANTAN (DAYAK MAANYAN AND DAYAK DUSUN)

Sonia Pitaloka^{*}, Ramyola Arisha Wianie, Desy Rachmiati, Tiara Mardina, Lusi Tri Utami, Misrita

Magister of English Education, Palangka Raya University, Indonesia

*soniapitaloka99@gmail.com

Abstract

This study explored the linguistic relationship between the Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun languages in the East Barito region of Central Kalimantan. Focusing on lexical and phonological features, the research employed a descriptive qualitative approach to analyze 200 glosses from both languages, systematically selected based on the Swadesh list. The glosses were categorized into parts of speech, including nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and conjunctions. These glosses were compared to identify similarities and differences. The findings indicated substantial overlap in linguistic structures, reflecting a shared Austronesian heritage, while also revealing distinct variations shaped by cultural and geographical influences. These differences highlighted the dynamic evolution of languages within the same region, driven by social interactions and environmental adaptations. This research provided valuable insights into the linguistic diversity and convergence within the East Barito language family, contributing to the broader understanding of indigenous languages in Central Kalimantan.

Keywords: Dayak Maanyan, Dayak Dusun, Linguistic Comparison, East Barito

INTRODUCTION

Language plays a crucial role in human life, serving as a fundamental tool for social interaction. It enables individuals to connect and communicate effectively, facilitating the expression of thoughts, ideas, and messages in various social contexts.

Language is organic (e.g. living things) and therefore, language have a life span and exist time that has been promised (scheduled). Both are in infancy – have a foundation and a beginning, also growth and improvements in purity and perfection, as well as within dissemination and reproduction, obstinacy, old age, span (slump), and damaged (Sumarsono, 2006).

Among the numerous languages Indonesia has as its own This is what contributes to Indonesian society being a multilingual society. Indonesian public life begins with its citizens. Monolingual, i.e., learn the native tongue as a mother tongue before becoming a bilingual or multilingual community.

Each region has its own language and dialect as the first language or mother tongue, which is often used for communication between communities. In Central Kalimantan, the Dayak language as the mother tongue is often used by the people. However, Central Kalimantan, especially East Barito, has various Dayak languages, including the Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun. The existence of several languages in one area raises the question: "Do the regional languages in Central Kalimantan have differences or are there similarities in vocabulary?" This question can be answered by carrying out dialectometric calculations.

The Ot Danum Dayak tribe, which lives in Central Kalimantan, is made up of 68 smaller tribes, according to Riwtut's statistics (2007). One of these is the Maanyan Dayak tribe. The language spoken by the Maanyan Dayak people is known as Maanyan language. Most of them inhabit the geographical area of South Barito Regency, East Barito, North Most of them live in the Central Kalimantan

Province region, specifically in South Barito Regency, East Barito, North Barito, and in the Barito river (Poerwadi, 1994). The Maanyan sub-tribe is dispersed throughout Central Kalimantan and even Indonesia as a result of urbanization. As a member of the larger Austronesian family, the Maanyan language belongs to the Maanyan subfamily (Budhiono, 2016).

A dialect is a variation of a particular language used by a group of speakers and identified by grammatical, syntactical, or phonological indicators (Budiarsa, 2015). According to Meillet (1970, pp. 69–71) in Patriantoro (2021), the term "dialect" refers to variations of the same language spoken in various geographic locations. The study of particular varieties or dialects of a language is known as dialectology. Dialectologists hold the opinion that all dialects of a language have an equal place and status; there are no prestigious dialects and non-prestigious dialects. Every dialect of a language, in theory, serves the same purpose as a medium of communication in social groupings to forge connections with others. According to Lauder (2002) One of the most difficult theoretical issues in linguistics is determining precise, accurate, and comprehensive criteria to be able to distinguish between languages and dialects. This, has a direct impact on the classification of all languages and also includes a tally of the number of languages worldwide.

The distinction between language and dialect remains a topic of significant debate among dialectologists. Although dialects are fundamentally subdivisions of languages, differentiating between the two is not always straightforward. According to KBBI, a dialect is a variation of language that changes based on its users. Petyt (as cited in Dhanawaty, 2005: 50), describes dialect as a variation within a language group influenced by the geographic and social background of its speakers. These definitions underscore the importance of regional and societal factors in shaping dialects, reflecting the dynamic and evolving nature of linguistic diversity within language families.

RESEARCH METHODS

Research Design

This research employed a descriptive qualitative approach to explore the linguistic similarities and differences between the Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun languages. It focused on lexical and phonological features to analyze their relationships within the East Barito language family. By examining these aspects, the research provided insights into the connections and distinctions between the two languages, emphasizing their shared heritage and unique developments shaped by cultural, geographic, and social influences in the region.

Data Collection

The data for this research consisted of 200 glosses, systematically selected from the vocabulary of both languages based on the Swadesh list, a standardized tool in comparative linguistics. The glosses were categorized into parts of speech, including nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and conjunctions. A side-by-side comparison was conducted to identify similarities and differences in lexical items and phonological patterns, and the findings were interpreted within the framework of linguistic convergence and divergence, considering cultural and geographical factors that may have influenced language evolution.

Data Analysis

The data were analyzed using a comparative approach. The collected glosses were systematically classified into parts of speech and compared between the two languages to identify similarities and differences in lexical items and phonological patterns. A detailed comparison revealed notable instances of linguistic convergence and divergence. The findings were interpreted within the framework of cultural and geographical influences that likely shaped the evolution of these languages. This analysis provided valuable insights into their shared Austronesian heritage and distinct linguistic development in East Barito language family.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The data used in this study was 200 lists of glosses from two local languages, Dayak Maanyan language and Dayak Dusun language. From the data, it showed that there were 62 different lexicons from both languages. To determine the data, the researcher divided the glosses into several part of speech such as noun, pronoun, verb, adverb, adjective, preposition, and conjunction.

1. Noun in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

The analysis began with a comparison of nouns from both languages. Table 1 illustrates several examples of nouns in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, highlighting their lexical similarities and differences. While some terms remain identical across both languages, others exhibit slight variations due to phonological or lexical influences.

Table 1. Noun Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Jarum	Pilus	Pilos
Rumput	Rikut	Rumput
Buah	Wua	Uwa
Tali	Tadi	Tadi

From Table 1, it is evident that nouns in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun exhibit minimal differences, with many terms remaining identical while others show slight variations influenced by phonological or lexical changes. These similarities highlight the mutual influence and interaction between the two languages, emphasizing their shared linguistic heritage. In Indonesia, such overlaps often reflect the historical spread, adaptation, and interconnectedness of local languages shaped by common ethnic and cultural roots. This linguistic interplay illustrates the dynamic relationship among communities within the East Barito region, further underscoring the

importance of cultural and geographic factors in shaping language development (Rizal & Indonesia, 2016).

2. Pronoun in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Pronouns were also analyzed to determine their level of similarity between the two languages. Table 2 presents examples of pronouns in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, showcasing their uniformity across the two languages.

Table 2. Pronoun Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Aku	Aku	Aku
Kamu	Hanyu	Hanyu
Kita	Takam	Takam
Mereka	Here	Here

The pronoun in both languages did not show any differences, as seen in Table 2. This uniformity suggests that the two languages share a common linguistic heritage, likely influenced by the close geographical proximity of their speakers. According to Adelaar (1995), similarities between languages often stem from shared cultural and historical backgrounds. In the case of Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, the communities' coexistence and interaction in Borneo likely facilitated the preservation of similar pronoun systems. This finding reinforces the idea that cultural connections play a significant role in maintaining linguistic consistency within related languages.

3. Verb in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Verbs were analyzed to explore the phonological variations between the two languages. Table 3 highlights examples of verbs in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, illustrating differences in pronunciation while maintaining overall phonetic similarities.

Table 3. Verb Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Makan	Kuman	Kuman
Minum	Nguut	Ngoot
Muntah	Nua	Noa
Menggigit	Ngikit	Ngikit

Based on the table above, the verbs in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun exhibit a few differences, particularly in their vocal alphabet. These differences highlight phonological shifts that may have occurred over time due to regional influences or language contact. Despite these variations, the overall phonetic patterns remain consistent, indicating that the two languages share a common linguistic ancestry.

According to Sigiro (2015), languages that originate from the same proto-language often display similar sound systems (phonetic) and sound arrangements (phonological). This is evident in the verbs of Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, where minor phonetic adjustments are observed without altering the core lexical identity. These findings underscore the dynamic nature of language evolution while maintaining ties to shared linguistic roots.

These variations reflect the impact of environmental and social factors on language development, suggesting that communities speaking these languages adapted their vocabulary to align with cultural, geographical, and contextual influences unique to their regions.

4. Adverb in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Adverbs were examined to identify lexical and structural variations between the two languages. Table 4 presents examples of adverbs in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, demonstrating slight differences that reflect the nuances of regional linguistic evolution.

Table 4. Adverb Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Bagaimana	Kala awe	Kala awe
Dimana	Hang awe	Ta awe

The comparison of adverbs in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, as shown in Table 4, reveals minor differences in both form and usage between the two languages. Specifically, the adverbs *Bagaimana* (how) and *Dimana* (where) are expressed as Kala awe in Dayak Maanyan and Hang awe or Ta awe in Dayak Dusun. These variations, though subtle, highlight the regional linguistic evolution that has shaped each language over time.

According to Sudarno (1994), languages located in close geographical proximity, such as Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, frequently exhibit similarities in both form and meaning. This phenomenon, known as linguistic convergence, highlights the impact of shared cultural and historical contexts in shaping similar linguistic structures. However, the small differences observed between the adverbs of Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun underline the unique identity of each language. These distinctions emphasize the significance of regional linguistic diversity, demonstrating how cultural, environmental, and social factors contribute to the dynamic evolution of language within communities in geographically connected regions.

5. Adjective in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Adjectives were analyzed to identify both similarities and differences in the lexical structure of the two languages. Table 5 provides examples of adjectives in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, illustrating cases of identical translations alongside notable variations.

Table 5. Adjective Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Panjang	Amau	Amau
Pendek	Ime	Ime
Kecil	Nyanit	Halus
Berat	Maweat	Weat

The comparison of adjectives in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, as shown in Table 5, reveals both similarities and differences in the lexical structure of these languages. While some adjectives have identical translations, others exhibit notable variations. For example, the adjectives *Panjang* (long) and *Pendek* (short) are translated the same in both Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun as *Amau* and *Ime*, respectively. However, there are differences in the translation of *Kecil* (small) and *Berat* (heavy), which are translated as *Nyanit* and *Maweat* in Dayak Maanyan and *Halus* and *Weat* in Dayak Dusun.

These differences and similarities in adjectives reflect the unique linguistic features of each language, shaped by their distinct cultural and historical contexts. The shared translations of some adjectives suggest a possible influence or contact between the two languages, indicating that they may have evolved in parallel over time. On the other hand, the differences in words like *Kecil* and *Berat* highlight the divergence in the lexicon, pointing to separate linguistic developments despite the geographic proximity of the two languages.

6. Preposition in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

In this section, the researchers examined the use of prepositions in both Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun. Prepositions are essential in indicating relationships between various elements within a sentence, and their forms can vary across languages. The following

table compared the prepositions in both languages, highlighting their similarities and subtle differences.

Table 6. Preposition Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Di	Hang	Ta
Di dalam	Hang wuang	Ta huang
Di atas	Hang amau	Ta entu
Di bawah	Hang kapit	Ta leba

Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun had similar form in preposition. Dayak Maanyan added the word *Hang* (in) before the words *wuang*, *amau*, and *kapit*. While Dayak Dusun added the word *Ta* (in) before the words *huang*, *entu*, *leba*.

7. Conjunction in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

In this section, the researchers analyzed the use of conjunctions in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun. Conjunctions are crucial for linking words, phrases, or clauses, and their forms can provide insights into the syntactic structure of a language. The following table compares conjunctions in both languages, highlighting both differences and similarities in their usage.

Table 7. Conjunction Comparison in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun

Indonesia	Dayak Maanyan	Dayak Dusun
Dan	Andri	Dan
Jikalau	Jaka ni	Jaka e

In the comparison of conjunctions between Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, as shown in Table 7, there are both similarities and differences. The conjunction *Dan* (and) has different translations in the two languages: it is rendered as *Andri* in Dayak Maanyan and *Dan* in Dayak Dusun. This difference may

reflect subtle shifts in the syntactic or phonological development of each language. On the other hand, the conjunction *Jikalau* (if) is used in both languages with the same structure, represented as *Jaka* in both Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun, followed by the words *ni* and *e*, respectively.

These observations indicate that while the two languages share certain grammatical structures, such as the use of *Jaka* to express the conditional if, they also exhibit unique forms and variations in the translation of other conjunctions. The use of different words for and in Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun may point to historical and cultural influences that led to the development of distinct linguistic features. The common structure for if suggests a shared linguistic origin or influence between the two languages.

CONCLUSION

This research highlights the linguistic relationship between Dayak Maanyan and Dayak Dusun languages, revealing both shared characteristics and unique differences in lexical and phonological structures. These findings demonstrate their common Austronesian heritage while emphasizing the influence of geographical and cultural factors on their distinct development. The analysis of nouns, pronouns, verbs, adverbs, adjectives, prepositions, and conjunctions underscores the linguistic diversity within the East Barito region, reflecting both convergence and divergence in language evolution. This research contributes to understanding the dynamics of regional languages in Central Kalimantan and provides a foundation for future studies on other indigenous languages.

REFERENCE

Budiarsa, I. M. (2015). Language, dialect, and register: Sociolinguistic perspective. *RETORIKA: Jurnal Ilmu Bahasa*, 1(2), 379–387.

Budhiono, R. H. (2016). Peribahasa: Kearifan lokal pembentuk karakter anak-anak Dayak Maanyan di Kalimantan Tengah. *Ramah: Jurnal Kajian Bahasa*, 5(1), 25–32.

Dhanawaty, N. M. (2005). Sekilas tentang lingkup kajian dialektologi. *Jurnal Linguistika*, 12(2), 48–61.

Lauder, M. R. M. T. (1993). *Pemetaan dan Distribusi Bahasa-Bahasa di Tangerang*. Jakarta: Pusat Pembinaan dan Pengembangan Bahasa.

Patriantoro, P. (2021). The geography of Dayak dialect in Landak Regency, West Kalimantan. *Indonesian Journal of EFL and Linguistics*, 6(1), 1–16.

Poerwadi, P. (1994). *Analisis Leksikostatistik Bahasa-Bahasa di Kalimantan Tengah*. Palangka Raya: Lemlit Unpar.

Prasetya, K. H., Subakti, H., & Septika, H. D. (2020). Pemertahanan bahasa Dayak Kenyah di Kota Samarinda. *Diglosia: Jurnal Kajian Bahasa, Sastra, dan Pengajarannya*, 3(3), 295–304.

Riwut, T. (2007). *Kalimantan Membangun Alam dan Kebudayaan*. Yogyakarta: NR Publishing.

Sumarsono. (2006). *Sosiolinguistik*. Yogyakarta: Pustaka Pelajar.

Rijal, S., & Indonesia, P. S. (2016). Hubungan bahasa Dayak Kenyah dan bahasa Dayak Punan: Analisis ekolinguistik dialektikal. In *Proceedings of the 9th National Seminar on Mother Tongue* (pp. 2474–2487). Denpasar, Indonesia: Udayana University Press.

Sigiro, E. P. (2017). Kekerabatan bahasa Tamuan, Waringin, Dayak Ngaju, Kadorih, Maanyan, dan Dusun Lawangan. *Kandai*, 11(1), 1–14.