

# MORPHOLOGICAL STUDY ON VERBAL INFLECTIONAL AND DERIVATIONAL PROCESS IN SASAK LANGUAGE

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## ABSTRACT

*This study was meant to identify the affixes which occur thorough inflectional and derivational process in SLND and to identify the verbs which occur through zero derivation. This study deals with a qualitative research. The techniques were used to collect the data through observation, interview, and recording. The data were taken from native speaker of Ngeno – Ngene dialect in Apitaik village. The obtained data were then analyzed through distributional method and equal method. It showed that there are eleven types of affixes dealing with inflectional process of verbal construction, as follows: three types in terms of prefixes (e.g. {N-}, {ta-}, {be-}), two types in terms of suffixes (e.g. {-an}, {-in}), and six types in terms of circumfixes (e.g. {N-an}, {ta - an}, {N-in}. {ta-in}, {be-an}, {ke-an}). In addition, There are seven types of affixes which occur through derivational process such as {N-}, {be-}, {-an}, {-in}, {ta-an}, {ta-in} and {N-an}. Lastly, it is also found that there was a changing process of word class catergoy (e.g. Noun → Verb) without adding particular affixes categorized as a zero derivation.*

## ABSTRAK

Penelitian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi afiksasi yang terjadi melalui proses inflection dan derivation pada SLND dan untuk mengidentifikasi kata kerja yang terjadi melalui zero derivation. Penelitian ini merupakan penelitian kualitatif. Teknik yang digunakan di dalam mengumpulkan data adalah melalui observasi, wawancara, dan rekaman. Data diambil dari para penutur asli yang menggunakan dialek 'ngeno-ngene- di Desa Apitaik. Data yang diperoleh kemudian dianalisis dengan menggunakan distributional method and equal method. Hasil yang diperoleh adalah tujuh jenis afiksasi yang berkaitan dengan proses inflection dalam pembentukan kata kerja yakni: tiga jenis dalam bentuk prefix (e.g. {N-}, {ta-}, {be-}), dua jenis dalam bentuk suffixes (e.g. {-an}, {-in}), and eman jenis dalam bentuk circumfixes (e.g. {N-an}, {ta - an}, {N-in}. {ta-in}, {be-an}, {ke-an}). Disamping itu juga, ada tujuh jenis afiksasi yang terjadi melalui proses derivation, seperti N-}, {be-}, {-an}, {-in}, {ta-an}, {ta-in} and {N-an}. Yang terakhir yang ditemukan dalam penelitian ini adalah ada proses perubahan kelas kata (e.g. Noun → Verb) tanpa menambahkan afiksasi tertentu yang dikenal dengan istilah zero derivation.

**Keywords:** *Morphology, Inflection, Derivation.*

## INTRODUCTION

Sasak language is spoken in Lombok Island (immediately east of Bali, Indonesia) by around 2.7 million speakers, roughly 85% of the population of Lombok, which recorded as 3,169,050 in 2010. It shows great variations, both geographical and social, with complex linguistics ecology (Austin 2003). The geographical varieties show variation in phonology, lexicon and morpho-syntax, especially in the areas of clitic pronouns (Austin 1996, 2006) and valence-changing processes (Austin 1996, 2000, 2001), and in verbal morphology.

Numerous studies of Sasak language have already investigated, such as Ashariyani (2008), Mahsun (1997), and Siruhaq, et.al (2009). Ashariyani (2008) on her research *Sistem Verba Bahasa Sasak Dialek Bayan Dari Dasar Verba Dan Nomina* ' Verbal System of Sasak Language in Bayan. Mahsun (1997) investigated about comparative and various temporaries' of Sasak Language. Sirulhaq et.al (2009) discussed about comparative structure dialect in Sasak Language.

Aridawati (1981) as far as the observation of the researcher, she just focused on Bayan dialect, and Sukri (2008) on his dissertation *[M-N] Derivational And Inflectional Affixes In Sasak Language Kuto-Kute Dialect*'.

Sasak speakers recognize five ethno-linguistically named varieties according to Austin (2003) based on Shibboleth words for 'like that-like this', namely: *Ngeno - Ngene* — central west coast and central east to north east coast, *Meno-Mene* — around the towns of Puyung and Praya, central Lombok, *Nggeto-Nggete* — around Suralaga and Sembalun in the north-east, *Kuto-Kute* — around Bayan in the north (also called *Ngenó-Ngené*), and *Meriq-Meriku* — south central area around Bonjeruk and Sengkol (Pujut), and near Selong in east.

Sasak language has some uniqueness. One of the uniqueness is in terms of derivational process, inflectional process, and zero derivation, the changing of word class category (e.g. noun) which occurs without adding particular affixes to the verb class. Some languages can be constructed through affixation (e.g. inflection and derivation). Some others are possible through zero

derivation. Sasak Language '*Ngeno-ngene*' dialect (SLND) is probably constructed through both of them. Therefore, this study is crucial interested to be searched. Consider these sentences below!

a) Akim ngentiq *tambah*  
3PS hold hoe  
' "Akim is holding a hoe"

b) Becatan isiq *tambah* reban ini  
*quickly by dig ditch this*  
"Dig this ditch quickly!"

The sentence (a) showed that the word *tambah* is categorized as a noun but the sentence (b) of the word *tambah* is categorized as a verb. In general, the derivational process will occur through affixation process, in which the process of attaching the affixes to the base word by changing either meaning or word class category. However, the process above occurs through zero affixation categorized as a *zero derivation*.

Similar with other languages, Indonesia and English, Sasak language '*ngeno-ngene*' dialect (SLND) could be searched through morphological study (e.g. derivation and inflection). For instance Indonesia language, The word 'play' {-er} → 'player' {pe-main} → pemain, game{-er} → gamer, {pe-main} → pemain game, and also in sasak language just like : 'botoh' [bOtOh] attaching with affix {pe-}botoh → pembotoh {pe-}judi → penjudi/gamble{-er} → gambler. Therefore, not only Indonesian and English language have derivational process but also in Sasak language. When a verb is attached by prefix {pe-}, it will change the word class from verb into noun.

Therefore, this study is conducted to analyze the morphological process in Sasak language '*Ngeno-ngene*' dialect (SLND), in particular, verbal constructions through inflectional, derivational, and zero derivational process.

This study is fully expected to have crucial contributions theoretically, practically and significantly in relation to Sasak Language Learning. The result of this study is theoretically hoped to give contributions to increase the linguistic knowledge especially in morphology. This study is expected

practically to be a source in teaching morphology, in particular, in morphological process of sasak language. Finally, this study is significantly aimed at providing inputs for the study of a local language work and for further researcher.

### METHOD OF STUDY

This study is a descriptive qualitative research. It attempted to describe all aspects of derivational and inflectional process of verbs in Sasak language of *Ngeno – Ngene* dialect, particularly in Apitaik village, Pringgabaya District-East Lombok Regency.

The researcher assumes that Sasak also shows complex system of speech levels, but this research uses the data from the low

level of SLND. This language variation is mostly used in SLND in Apitaik society.

In data collection, the researcher implied four techniques such as observation, interview, note-taking and recording. The obtained data is then analyzed by using American Structuralism Model (Subroto, 2007:67). Subroto divided this method into eight techniques. However, the researcher implied three techniques among all of them such as *Description of smallest element technique*, *Opposition two on two technique* and *Alternation technique*.

### FINDINGS

Here are the lists of affixes that occur through inflectional, derivational, and zero derivational process as follows:

**Table 1. List of affixes occurs through inflection in terms of verbal constructions.**

Prefix	Example	Suffix	Example	Circumfix	Example
<i>N-</i>	Inem → <i>nginem</i> (N → N)	<i>-aŋ</i>	Beit → <i>beitang</i> (N → N)	<i>ke-an</i>	Endet → <i>kerendetan</i> (N → N)
<i>ta-</i>	Beit → <i>tabeit</i> (N → N)	<i>-in</i>	Beit → <i>beitin</i> (N → N)	<i>ta-aŋ</i>	Beit → <i>tabeitang</i> (N → N)
<i>be-</i>	Beit → <i>bebeit</i> (N → N)			<i>ta-in</i>	Beit → <i>tabeitin</i> (N → N)

**Table 2. List of affixes occur through derivation in terms of verbal constructions.**

Prefix	Example	Suffix	Example	Circumfix	Example
<i>N-</i>	teh → <i>ngeteh</i> (N → V)	<i>-aŋ</i>	cet → <i>cetang</i> (N → V)	<i>ta-aŋ</i>	Cet → <i>tacetang</i> (N → V)
<i>be-</i>	teloq → <i>beteloq</i> (N → V)	<i>-in</i>	cet → <i>cetain</i> (N → V)	<i>ta-in</i>	Cet → <i>tacetin</i> (N → V)
				<i>N-aŋ</i>	Cet → <i>ngecetang</i> (N → V)

**Table 3. List of word that occurs through derivation zero.**

Base Word	As a noun	As a verb
Tambah	Irwan ngentiq <i>tambah</i>	Ndaq lupeq <i>tambah</i> bangket ini
Awis	Ta singgeq <i>awis</i> ini	<i>Awis</i> rebu ini jemaq
Telpon	Muni <i>telpon</i> amangku	Bareh kelem <i>telpon</i> eku
SMS	Terimeqku <i>SMS</i> meq	Jemak ndaq lupeq <i>SMS</i> eku
Cet	Bedul lalo beli <i>cet</i>	<i>Cet</i> endah tembok ini

## DISCUSSION

### Inflectional forms through some affixes in SLND

Inflectional process is a morphemic process, which applied as the same lexical form (Verhaar: 2004. p.121). In accordance with the obtained data, there were some morphemes in Sasak language dealing with inflectional morpheme such as *N-*, *be-*, *ta-*, *-an*, *-in*, *N-an*, *ta-in*, *ke-an*. Those morphemes occur through inflectional affixes since those morphemes attach to the base verb without changing the word class category. Consider the following examples!

- 1) Amaq Aleh *nalet* kacang  
*Father 3PS plant peanut*  
**“Mr. Aleh is planting the peanut”**
- 2) Kacang *tatalet* siq amaq Aleh  
*Peanut planted by father 3PS*  
**“The peanut was planted by Mr. Aleh”**

At the sentence (1), the word *nalet* [nalet] “**plant**” is constructed from the base verb *talet* [talet] “**plant**”. This verb is attached by prefix *N-* (nasal). By the existing of prefix *N-* in the *talet* [talet] “**plant**” does not change the word class category of the verb. Similar with the sentence (2), the verb *tatalet* [tatalet] “**planted**” is also constructed from the verb base *talet* [talet] “plant” which is attached by Prefix *ta-*. By the existence of Prefix *ta-* in the the verb *tatalet* [tatalet] “planted” does not also change the word class category of the verb. It indicates that both prefixes are categorized as inflectional affixes. Consider again these sentences in relation to suffix category which attaches to base verb but it does not change the verb category!

- 3) *Sedutang* eku ronggo ini!  
*Burn me rubbish this*  
**“Burn this rubbish for me!”**
- 4) *Tokolin* kursi guru ini!  
*Sit chair teacher this*  
**“Sit on this teacher’s chair!”**

The sentence (3) above, the verb *sedutang* [sedutan] “**burn**” is constructed by the base verb *sedut* [sedut] “**burn**” which is attached by suffix *-an*. Similar with the

sentence (4), the verb *tokolin* [tOkOlin] “**sit on**” is constructed by the verb base *tokol* [tOkOI] “**sit**” which is attached by suffix *in*. Having been attached by both suffixes in the base verbs, they don’t change in sight of the word class category of the verb. It implies that both suffixes are categorized as inflectional affixes in morphological process.

The followings are examples of affixes which attach to the base verb and categorized as *circumfix*.

- 5) Bukungku *kerendetan* isiq tas  
*book IPS pin by bag*  
**“My book is pinned by the bag”**
- 6) Eku *tabeitang* kepeng isik amangu  
*I taken money by father my*  
**“I was taken some money by my father”**

The sentence (5), described that the verb *kerendetan* [kerendetan] “pinned” is constructed from the verb base *endet* [endet] “**pinned**” attaching to circumfix *ke-an*. The same as the sentence (6), the verb *tabeitang* [tabeitan] “**taken**” constructed from the verb base *beit* [beit] “**taken**” attaching to circumfix *ta-an*. Both circumfix *ke-an* and *ta-an*, when they attach to the base verb, they don’t change the word class of the verb. They are also called inflectional affixes in one of morphological process.

### Derivational forms through some affixes in SLND.

In this section, I will elaborate some derivational forms or affixes in SLND. The derivational is a morphemic process that refers to word formations that causing the change of word classes and meaning (Twain, 2013).

As has been displayed previously in the table 3, there are some affixes either in terms of prefix, suffix, or circumfix, which attach to the base verb and contribute to derivational form in morphological process. There are several morphemes categorized as *derivational affixes or morphemes* such as {*N-*, *be-*, *-in*, *an*, *ta-an*, *ta-in*, and *N-an*}. See these examples below!

- 7) Kenjekanna *ngeteh* amangu tono  
*At the time drink tea father my there*  
**“My father is drinking tea there”**

- 8) Gen ku belajar *begitar* jemaq  
*Will I study play guitar tomorrow*  
**“I will study how to play guitar tomorrow”**

The sentence (7), the word *ngeteh* [ŋetEh] “**drink tea**” is categorized as a verb. It is a derivative meaning from the prefix *ŋe-* and the base word is *teh* [teh] “tea”. The word *teh* [teh] is a noun category. Since it is attached by prefix *ŋe-*, the word *teh* becomes *ngeteh* [ŋetEh] “**drink tea**”. The word *ngeteh* is categorized as a verb because of the existence of prefix *ŋe*. Not only it changes the meaning but also the word class category in part of speech. Therefore, it can be categorized as a derivational process.

Similarly, the sentence (8), the word *begitar* [begitar] “**play guitar**” is a verb category. It is a derivative meaning from prefix *be-*. The base is *gitar* [gitar] “**guitar**”. The word *gitar* is a noun in part of speech category. Since it is attached by prefix *be-*, it becomes *begitar* [begitar] “**play guitar**”. It changes the meaning and class of word, verb. It is also called a derivational process in terms of prefix in SLND. However, there are some suffixes which also contribute to the derivational process in SLND. Consider these sentences below!

- 9) *Gitarang* edimeq becatan!  
*playing guitar brother your quickly*  
**“Play the guitar for your younger brother quickly!”**
- 10) *Ndaq lupeq sepetuin* anakda  
*Don't forget wear the shoes kid your*  
**“Don not forget to help your son to wear the shoes!”**

The sentence (9), the word *gitarang* [gitaran] “**play guitar for**” has a category as a verb. It is a derivative meaning from noun base *gitar* [gitar] “**guitar**” of the suffix *-an*. Meanwhile, the sentence (10) above, the word *sepetuin* [sepetuin] “**wear the shoes for**” also has a category as a verb, it is also a derivative meaning from noun base *sepetu* [sepetu] “shoes” because of the suffix *-in*.

Besides prefix and suffix form which contribute to the derivational form in one of morphological process in SLND, there are also some circumfixes which contribute to the

derivational process of verb in SLND. See these sentences below!

- 11) *taterikahang* eku klembingku siq  
inengku  
*ironing me shirt my by*  
*mother-my*  
**“My shirt is ironed by my mother”**
- 12) *Ijazahku wah tatanda tanganin* siq  
kepala sekolah  
*Diploma-my already signed by*  
*headmaster*  
**“My diploma has already been signed by the headmaster”**

The sentence (11) above, the word *taterikahang* [taterikahan] “**ironed by**” is a verb category in part of speech sight. It is a derivative meaning from base noun *terikah* [terikah] “iron” after it has been attached by the circumfix *ta-an*. So does the sentence (12), the word *tatandanganin* [tatandanganin] “**signed by**” is categorized as a verb. It is a derivative word from the base noun *tandatangan* [tandatangan] “signature” and then attached by circumfix *ta-in*.

#### Zero derivation in SLND.

Zero derivation by means of the affixation of an identity element (Lyons, 1977:512). It is because of the parallelism with overtly marked derivatives that we speak of zero marked derivatives or zero-derivatives, not just because of the added element of content which characterizes the transposition of the adjective *clean* to the verb *clean*, etc.

There are several words that occur through zero derivations in SLND. I only focus on verb construction which is described through sentence forms. Consider these data below!

First Sentence	Second Sentence	Category
13) Beliang ite <u>cet</u> abang <i>Buy me paint red</i> "Buy the red <b>paint</b> for me!"	14) <u>Cet</u> tembok ini endah! <i>Paint wall this too</i> "Paint this wall <b>too!</b> "	Noun → Verb
15) Amangku mbeli <u>awis</u> . <i>father my buy sickle</i> "My father buys a <b>sickle</b> "	16) <u>Awis</u> rebu ini! <i>sickle grass this</i> "Cut this <b>grass!</b> "	Noun → Verb
17) Hapus mek <u>SMS</u> ku? <i>delete you message-my</i> "Did you delete my <b>message?</b> "	18) Wah ku <u>SMS</u> anta. <i>already I message you</i> "I have already <b>sent a message to you</b> "	Noun → Verb
19) Beit <u>lap</u> si abang ini <i>take towel the red this</i> "Take the red <b>towel!</b> "	20) <u>Lap</u> dour meq becat! <i>wipe sweat your quickly</i> "Wipe your sweat <b>quickly!</b> "	Noun → Verb
21) Rombok <u>pasek</u> becik ini! <i>add nail small this</i> "Add this small <b>nail!</b> "	22) <u>Pasek</u> lawang ini! <i>nail door this</i> "Nail this <b>door!</b> "	Noun → Verb
23) Beliang bale meq <u>pager</u> <i>buy house your hedge</i> "Buy the <b>hedge</b> for your house"	24) <u>Pager</u> bale meq juluk! <i>hedge house your first</i> "Hedge your house <b>firstly!</b> "	Noun → Verb

From the data above, it could be seen that there are some similar words in SLND which have different meaning, function, and word class category in a sentence. The underline words on the left column function as nouns. The underline words on the right column function as verbs. Those are considered as **zero derivation**. For example the sentence (13) and (14), the word *cet* in sentence (13) has a meaning "**paints or painting**". It is a noun category in part of speech. In this case, the speaker attempts to ask the listener to buy a red paint. Meanwhile, the sentence (14) on the right column, the word *cet* has a meaning as "**paint**". It is a verb category in part of speech. The sentence (14) is a command sentence. The speaker attempts to give the instruction to the listener to paint the wall.

Similar with the sentence (15) and (16), both are categorized as zero derivation too. The sentence (15), the word *awis* has a meaning "**sickle**" which categories as a noun. If it is seen from the sight of syntactical distribution, the word *awis* "**sickle**" comes after predicate *mbeli* "**buy**". Therefore, the word *awis* "sickle" functions as an object in the sentence (15). The object must be a noun. In this case, the speaker attempted to

inform the listener that his father bought a sickle. Different from the sentence (16), the word *awis* has a meaning "**cut**" which categories as a verb. The sentence is also a command sentence. The speaker tried to instruct the listener to cut the grass by using the word *awis* "**cut**" initially which functions as a verb in the sentence (16) without the existence of affixes in the process of verb changing. So do the sentence (17) (18), (19) (20), (21) (22), and (23) (24). Those are also categorized as zero derivation since there are not any affixes adding in the process of changing word category, noun to verb.

## CONCLUSION

In accordance with the finding and discussion above, the morphological process on verbal constructions in Sasak language, in particular, in SLND are filled by some affixes which attached to base verbs as follows:

Firstly, one of the verbal constructions in SLND occurs through inflectional affixes. It is divided into eleven types of affixes, as follows: three types in terms of prefixes (e.g. {N-}, {ta-}, {be-}), two types in terms of suffixes (e.g. {-an}, {-in}), and six types in terms of circumfixes (e.g. {N-an}, {ta - an}, {N-in}, {ta-in}, {be-an}, {ke-an}). Those affixes

occur through inflectional process since those affixes attach to the base verbs without changing either the meaning or word class category.

Secondly, the affixes process of verb construction in SLND is derivational affixes. This process is the opposite of inflectional process. The derivational process has a function to construct a new meaning and new word class category. There are seven types of affixes which occur through derivational process such as {N-}, {be-}, {-an}, {-in}, {ta-an}, {ta-in} and {N-an}.

Thirdly, morphological process in SLND is zero derivation. It is claimed as a unique process in SLND. Since this process changes the word class category (e.g. Noun → Verb) without adding particular affixes as has been accounted for previously.

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