

METHOD IN COMPILING REGIONAL-INDONESIAN BILINGUAL DICTIONARY OF LEMBAK LANGUAGE OF BENGKULU PROVINCE

Merry Rullyanti; Ami Pradana; Dhanu Ario Putra; Salu Marcelina

*)Universitas Dehasen Bengkulu

Email correspondence: merry.sasing@unived.ac.id

Article History: Accepted; August 19, 2024; Revised; September 10, 2024; Approved: October 20, 2024

ABSTRACT

The total number of users of regional and local languages in Indonesia has declined significantly. Such dominant factors are noticed to be able to weaken local languages in Indonesian society such as the lack of competence about Indonesian culture, the demands, and benefits of learning foreign languages. Similar to the situation which happens to the use of the Lembak language from the Lembak tribe of Bengkulu province in everyday life, it is fading significantly as the impact of globalization, foreign languages like English and Korean, and the lack of parental attention in cultivating it toward their children. Thus, there were concerns about keeping indigenous languages like Lembak language alive, especially with the influence of dominant languages. It is urged that bilingual dictionary must be compiled to be learnt by young generation and to make it easier as well as to preserve the indigenous language to be mastered by them since there is no specific document on the word collection of Lembak language. The systematic method was used in compiling the regional-Indonesian bilingual dictionary of Lembak language including *Data Collection, Data Processing, Data Compilation and Editing, Testing and Revision*. This process includes Translation, Pronunciation, Definition, and Examples. As a result, the process of compilation ends with the preparation of a bilingual dictionary format that comprises the alphabetical format, editing process, and dictionary testing. This dictionary is expected to be able to provide benefits in education and preservation of regional languages, facilitate learning, and support intercultural communication.

Keywords: Regional Language; Bilingual Dictionary; Lembak

I. INTRODUCTION

Indonesia is an archipelago country which has many tribes surround it. Each tribe has numerous local cultures, and more than one regional language and dialects which differ from one to another. The diversity of cultures spread across the islands, from Sumatra to Papua, from Sabang to Merauke. The government includes lessons on Indonesian culture, both nationally and locally, because of the diversity of Indonesian culture and local languages.

The number of uses of regional and local languages in Indonesia has decreased significantly,

and this is due to advances in information technology which increasingly require English which people need to understand and master the technology. According to experts, many influential factors can weaken local languages in Indonesian society, such as the lack of competence about Indonesian culture, the demands of education stakeholders, the demands and benefits of learning foreign languages, such as English, Korean and other languages, in addition to that is because the reduced number of speakers makes it worse. As well as with the use of Lembak language in everyday life, especially for Lembak tribe of Bengkulu province itself.

Nindyawati (2021) explained that the Lembak language is increasingly fading due to the influence of globalization, foreign languages, and lack of parental attention in cultivating it toward their children and offspring; as a result, they are unable to be mastered of their ancestor's language. With globalization and modernization, there were concerns about keeping indigenous languages like Lembak Bengkulu alive, especially with the influence of dominant languages. It is urged that bilingual dictionary must be compiled in order to be learnt by young generation and to make it easier as well as to preserve the indigenous language to be mastered by them since there is no specific document on the word collection of Lembak language.

Bilingualism is the use of two or more languages by a person or by a community (Kridalaksana, 1993: 43). A person is said to be bilingual when a person can use one and both languages in the act of communication with others. Bloomfield (in Chaer & Agustina, 2004:85) mentions that a bilingual is someone who can master two languages equally well. Whereas a dictionary is a reference that provides information about the meaning, spelling, pronunciation, and usage of words in a language. A bilingual dictionary specifically serves to translate vocabulary from one language to another. Such dictionaries facilitate understanding and communication between speakers of different languages and support language learning. Yu (2020) explained that the basic purpose of a bilingual dictionary is to direct with the lexical units of one

language those lexical units of another language which are equivalent in their lexical meaning. Furthermore, Lam, Al Tarouti, Kalita (2015) suggested that bilingual dictionaries are also beneficial for common readers, who probably need help in translating documents in a given language to their native language or to a language in which they are familiar. These kinds of dictionaries may also be essential from an intelligence viewpoint, especially when they deal with smaller languages like regional languages. However, there are still numerous challenges in compiling dictionaries particularly the regional bilingual ones. Those challenges include *the Cultural Context Differences*, which means vocabulary often has very specific meanings in local cultural contexts, and then also *Dialect Variations*, these show that regional languages frequently have significant dialectal variations; lastly, *Limited Data Sources*, which are about the documentation of regional languages can be very limited.

Thus, this article entitled "The Method of compiling regional-Indonesian Bilingual Dictionary of Lembak Language of Bengkulu Province" which aimed to find out the process of compiling the regional-Indonesian bilingual dictionary of Lembak language. This effort can be aid for the government and Indonesia's people preserve and integrate regional languages and local Indonesian culture; beside that it can provide recommendations for its sustained maintenance amid the continuously changing societal dynamics.

Advantages of the Bilingual Dictionary

Pinchuck (in Gauton, 2008; Budiwiyanto, 2022; Gauton, 2008; Tarp & Gouws, 2023) listed the main features of a good bilingual dictionary, they are explained as follows: firstly, the dictionary should offer correct translation equivalents; secondly, the dictionary should provide as wide a range of application as possible for each item, as we know that the range of entries will never be wide enough; thirdly, the dictionary should detail full grammatical information regarding word class, inflectional and derivational forms, and syntactic restrictions and applications; lastly, the dictionary should give the level of usage of the equivalents provided.

In addition, Baker and Kaplan (1994) stated that the advantage of bilingual dictionary is that it delivers far-off more information about the behaviors and meaning of the defined item than would be found in a non-bilingual dictionary.

The Importance of Regional-Indonesian Bilingual Dictionaries

Indonesia is a country with hundreds of regional languages. Regional-Indonesian bilingual dictionaries are crucial for preserving these languages, which are often endangered. These dictionaries help speakers of regional languages to better understand the national language, Indonesian, and vice versa, as well as strengthen cultural identity and intercultural communication (Luthfita & Yanita, 2023; Kridalaksana, 1993; Puspita & Yusuf, 2023; Garmate, Quamer, & Taha, 2023; Márkus & Dringó-

Horváth, 2023; Baker & Kaplan, 1994; Denisová & Rychlý, 2023; Fajt, Bánhegyi, & Márkus, 2023; Chen & Liu, 2023; Ptasznik, 2023; Cong, 2023).

The development of text linguistics has made it theoretically possible and necessary to review and assess the traditional ways of looking at the dictionary and view the dictionary from an entirely different perspective. Yong and Peng (2007) confirm that from a structural point of view, the dictionary bears striking resemblance to text. When examined on the microstructural level, it is even easier to see that the dictionary is actually composed of tiny texts (Amalia, 2023; Huang & Nam, 2023; Meliss, 2023; Buendía-Castro, 2023). No matter whether they are dictionary articles or entry articles, they are again organized in much the same manner as any text. These similarities lead metalexigraphers to believe that the dictionary can be described in terms of text linguistics. A serious attempt in this connection was made by Frawley & Gollinkoff (1989), Zand-Moghadam and Malmir, (2023), and Rüdiger and Klosa-Kückelhaus (2023), who put forward his proposition “the dictionary as text.” The goal of his proposition is “to consider the dictionary as a kind of text”. The idea of treating the dictionary as text gives a new drive to lexicographic studies and provides enlightening insights into how dictionary entries should be handled on textual principles, how dictionary text should be organized, and how dictionary text should be made more accessible. Based on the circumstances, the purpose of this study is to find out the method in compiling regional-

Indonesian bilingual dictionary of Lembak Language of Bengkulu Province.

Lembak Language

Lembak language belongs to the Western Malayo-Polynesian subgroup, the Malay language group, and the Austronesian language family. Lembak language is a regional language used by the Lembak Malay tribe in Bengkulu Province which is widely spoken in Central Bengkulu Regency, Rejang Lebong Regency, and Bengkulu city. Lembak language has three subgroups of dialects such as *Sindang Kelingi* and *Lembak Delapan*. In addition, Lembak language often mixes with Bengkulu Malay, Javanese, and Rejang languages. The language used by the Lembak tribe in Bengkulu is the Lembak dialect of Malay, commonly referred to as *Col* language. It has several differences compared to Bengkulu Malay, including *the pronunciation of words* and *the different vocabulary*, a distinctive feature of Lembak language is the use of the vowel /e/ to replace /a/ at the end of words where Bengkulu Malay often uses the letter "o" at the end of words, while Lembak Malay frequently uses the letter "e." For example, "apa" is pronounced "ape," "ke mana" becomes "ke mane," and "siapa" becomes "siape."

Regional Language Dictionary as The Language Preservation Tool

The regional language dictionary becomes a document or reference that should be owned by someone who intends to master the regional

language, the dictionary becomes a source of words and their meanings as a companion for native speakers of a language. if the dictionary can be used to find out the meaning or meaning of a word, however, the pronunciation may need to be accompanied by a native speaker. That's because the complexity of regional languages lies in writing and speaking a little differently, unlike Indonesian.

This dictionary is very helpful, because there are millions of words in it, but how to read it must be helped. If in English it is not much different, there is a way of pronunciation but it would be better to be guided directly.

II. METHODS

Both dictionaries of monolingual and bilingual dictionary distinguished two definitions. Laksana (2010) described that the definition of monolingual dictionary is a brief description in the same language, while in bilingual dictionary, the definition is in the form of equivalent meaning from the source language to the target language. Compiling a bilingual dictionary requires a systematic method, including *Data Collection*, it is done by identifying vocabulary through interviews, observations, and literature reviews, and then *Data Processing*, which means categorizing vocabulary alphabetically, determining word equivalents, and creating definitions, next, *Data Compilation and Editing*, it is organizing entries in a structured format and editing for accuracy. Lastly, *Testing and Revision*, it is conducted through testing with native speakers to

ensure quality and revising based on feedback. The method of translating regional-Indonesian bilingual dictionary of Lembak language involve several approaches, including: 1.) Literal Translation, this means translating word to word without altering the sentence structure; 2.) Compilation and Grouping, this step involves categorizing words or phrases based on themes or categories to facilitate searching and understanding.

These actions were conducted through a collaboration with native speakers of the regions which Lembak language to achieve accurate and reliable results. In the translation of the regional-Indonesian bilingual dictionary for the Lembak language of Bengkulu province, a direct translation method was used with native speakers of these regions. The language office team collected vocabulary data for the Lembak languages directly from native speakers to ensure that the results obtained were clear and accurate. After gathering the vocabulary, the researcher was responsible for compiling the bilingual dictionary along with the Language Office of Bengkulu province who were also collaborated with and guided by the native speakers to translate the vocabulary of the Lembak language.

III. FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

This section should provide an analysis of the corpus and research findings, supported by relevant theories and concepts. The minimum length is 5 pages. In this section regional-Indonesian bilingual

vocabulary can be compiled using data management software. This process includes: 1) *Translation*: translation method can function to compile equivalent words in Indonesian for each regional vocabulary; 2) *Pronunciation*: it is about how a word is pronounced in a particular regional language, and this can include *Phonetic Transcription* as the use of symbols to indicate the correct pronunciation., *Pronunciation Examples* which providing examples or guides on how the word is pronounced, often comparing the regional language with other languages., *Accent and Intonation* which mentioning pronunciation variations that may exist depending on specific dialects or regions. Overall, it can help users understand or know how to pronounce words correctly in regional language contexts. Furthermore, 3) *Definition* which means to provides a clear, correct and contextual definition; 4) *Example Sentences*, which are used to provide examples of vocabulary use in sentences.

No.	Lembak	Pelafalan	Makna	KK	Contoh Kalimat
1	abai		terangai di agab'ee'		terangai di agab'ee'
2	abai		terangai		terangai
3	abang		terangai		terangai
4	abang		terangai		terangai
5	abot		terangai		terangai
6	abu		terangai		terangai
7	abu		terangai		terangai
8	abu		terangai		terangai
9	abu		terangai		terangai
10	abu		terangai		terangai
11	abu		terangai		terangai
12	abu		terangai		terangai
13	abu		terangai		terangai
14	abu		terangai		terangai
15	abu		terangai		terangai
16	abu		terangai		terangai
17	abu		terangai		terangai
18	abu		terangai		terangai
19	abu		terangai		terangai
20	abu		terangai		terangai
21	abu		terangai		terangai
22	abu		terangai		terangai
23	abu		terangai		terangai
24	abu		terangai		terangai
25	abu		terangai		terangai
26	abu		terangai		terangai
27	abu		terangai		terangai
28	abu		terangai		terangai

Figure 1. List of vocabulary from the Lembak language

This dictionary is prepared in a bilingual format namely a regional language of Lembak into Indonesian language. Thus, this process includes: 1.)

Alphabetical Format: this stage is done to do the arrangement of all vocabulary alphabetically from A-Z; 2.) Editing Process: this stage is applied in order to ensure the accuracy and consistency of existing entries; 3.) Dictionary Testing: this stage is conducted to test the dictionary directly by the native speakers of Lembak language and regional language experts. All the obtained data is used to make revisions and improvements, as well as to identify potentially incorrect or ambiguous words.

Compiling a bilingual dictionary requires a systematic method, including Data Collection, Data Processing, Data Compilation and Editing, Testing and Revision. In this section regional- Indonesian bilingual vocabulary can be compiled using data management software. This process includes Translation, Pronunciation, Definition, and Examples. Problems faced include difficulties in searching for regional language entries, finding equivalent words or accurate word meanings and dialect differences. The solution is to collaborate with regional language speakers or experts and carry out periodic revisions until the appropriate and correct results can be obtained. Recommendations are also needed for the extension and the continuation of more vocabulary obtained to include the regular updates of the Lembak language based on required input. Not only that, developing digital applications such as web-based or mobile dictionaries is also recommended to improve accessibility.

IV. CONCLUSION

Based on the findings, it can be concluded that the preparation of a highly effective regional- Indonesian bilingual dictionary requires a systematic approach in processing, compiling and testing vocabulary. The vocabulary collection process that can use data management software has proven to be efficient, including translation, pronunciation, and providing definitions and example sentences. Therefore, this information not only helps users understand the meaning of words but also how to pronounce them correctly in the context of the regional language. The dictionary is prepared in a well-structured bilingual format, distinguishing between regional languages and Indonesian. This facilitates navigation and improves accessibility for users. Thus, this dictionary is not only useful for education and language preservation but also supports intercultural communication.

REFERENCES

- [1.]Amalia, D. (2023). The Use of Verb Valency Patterns in the Indonesian Monolingual Learner's Dictionary. *Lexicography*, 10(1), 38–58. <https://journal.equinoxpub.com/lexi/article/view/25076>
- [2.]Baker, M. & Kaplan, R. (1994). Translated! A New Breed of Bilingual Dictionaries. *Babel*, 40(1), 1–11.
- [3.]Buendía-Castro, M. (2023). Dictionary Use by Trainee Translators. *International Journal of Lexicography*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijl/ecac019>
- [4.]Budiwiyanto, A. (2022). Urgensi penyusunan kamus dwibahasa Indonesia-Inggris untuk penutur bahasa Indonesia. Badan Bahasa Kementerian Pendidikan dan Kebudayaan.

- [5.] Chaer, A. & Agustina, L. (2004). *Sosiolinguistik*. Jakarta: Rineka Cipta.
- [6.] Chen, Y., & Liu, S. (2023). A Further Look into the Use of a Dictionary App in EFL Writing: A Replication Study. *Lexikos*, 33(1), 324–349. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/lex/article/view/23033>
- [7.] Cong, R. (2023). The Application of Sociolinguistic Theory in College English Teaching: A Brief Discussion. *SHS Web of Conferences*, 168, 03026. <https://doi.org/10.1051/shsconf/202316803026>
- [8.] Denisová, M., & Rychlý, P. (2023). Evaluation of the Cross-lingual Embedding Models from the Lexicographic Perspective. *eLex 2023 Conference*. <https://elex.link/ojs/index.php/elex/article/view/elex2023>
- [9.] Fajt, B., Bánhegyi, M., & Márkus, K. P. (2023). The Interrelationship between EFL Learning Motivation and Dictionary Use. *International Journal of Lexicography*. <https://doi.org/10.1093/ijl/ecac020>
- [10.] Frawley, W. & Golinkoff, R.M. (1989/2022). *Handbook of Pragmatics Online*. Manual. Second edition, pp. 1686–1694. <https://doi.org/10.1075/hop.m2.lin1>
- [11.] Garmate, A., Quamer, Z., & Taha, A. (2023). Equivalence in Bilingual Dictionaries: Types, Problems and Criticism. *Scholars International Journal of Linguistics and Literature*, 6(6), 1–12. <https://doi.org/10.36348/sijll.2023.v06i06.001>
- [12.] Gauton, R. (2008). Bilingual Dictionaries, the Lexicographer and the Translator. *Lexikos*, 18, 106–118. <http://lexikos.journals.ac.za>
- [13.] Huang, Y., & Nam, K. (2023). Unregistered Words in Everyday Language and a Proposal for Their Optimal Lexicographic Microstructure. *Lexicography*, 10(2), 94–116. <https://journal.equinoxpub.com/lexi/article/view/25076>
- [14.] Kridalaksana, H. (1993). *Kamus Linguistik*. Jakarta: Gramedia Pustaka.
- [15.] Luthfita, W., & Yanita, S. R. (2023). Digitalizing a Local Language Dictionary: Challenges and Opportunities. *Lexicography*, 10(1), 59–85. <https://doi.org/10.1558/lexi.25076>
- [16.] Márkus, K. P., & Dringó-Horváth, I. (2023). Developing Dictionary Skills through Monolingual and Bilingual English Dictionaries at Tertiary-Level Education in Hungary. *Lexikos*, 33(1), 350–381. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/lex/article/view/23033>
- [17.] Meliss, M. (2023). Acting with Lexicon and Lexicographical Resources: Critical Reflections on the Use of Lexical, Lexicographic and Digital Literacy in Virtual Environments in Academic Writing in GFL. *Lexikos*, 33(1), 227–254. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/lex/article/view/23033>
- [18.] Ptaszniak, B. (2023). Evaluating the Usefulness of the Learning Tools in Monolingual Online Dictionaries for Learners of English: Gauging the Preferences of Polish Students of English. *Lexikos*, 33(1), 109–124. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/lex/article/view/23033>
- [19.] Puspita, D., & Yusuf, K. (2023). Categorizing Obsolete, Archaic, and Classic Words in an Indonesian Dictionary. *Lexicography*, 10(1), 23–37. <https://journal.equinoxpub.com/lexi/article/view/25076>
- [20.] Rüdiger, J. O., & Klosa-Kückelhaus, A. (2023). Introducing NeoRate: A Corpus-Lexicographic Tool to Support the Detection of Unregistered Words for a German COVID-19 Discourse Dictionary. *Lexicography*. <https://journal.equinoxpub.com/lexi/article/view/25076>
- [21.] Tarp, S., & Gouws, R. H. (2023). A Necessary Redefinition of Lexicography in the Digital Age: Glossography, Dictionography and Implications for the Future. *Lexikos*, 33(1), 425–447. <https://www.ajol.info/index.php/lex/article/view/23033>
- [22.] Zand-Moghadam, A., & Malmir, A. (2023). An Investigation of the Quality of Bilingual English-Persian and Persian-English Dictionaries: The Attitudes of the Iranian Translators, Instructors, and Students. *Language Related Research*, 14(2), 327–361. <https://doi.org/10.29252/LRR.14.2.10>