



Language Evolution and Change Historical and Sociolinguistic Review

Alim Jaizul W^{1*}, Siti Hadiaty Y²

^{1,2} *Research Collaboration Community, Bandung, Indonesia*

**Corresponding author email: alimjaizul47@gmail.com*

Abstract

Language changes and developments, both nationally and internationally, are inevitable due to cultural acculturation and interactions between speakers of different languages. These changes can be internal, affecting the grammar system, or external, influenced by contact with other languages. Internal changes, which occur gradually, involve alterations in phonological systems, phrase order, and case and gender functions. External changes, resulting from interactions driven by economic, political, educational, and technological interests, can occur rapidly, often starting with lexical enrichment and extending to other language elements. This study examines the historical development and changes in two languages from the same family, German and English, to illustrate internal changes. Additionally, it explores the impact of external changes in multilingual societies, emphasizing the role of sociolinguistics in understanding the relationship between language and society. The methodology involves a qualitative approach, literature review, participant observation, and interviews to gather and analyze data descriptively. The study finds that internal language changes are driven by speaker behaviour and innovation within communities, while external changes result from language contact and social interactions. These interactions lead to the introduction of loanwords, new morphological elements, phonemes, and speech variations. Examples from Indonesian, German, and English demonstrate how languages evolve due to these influences, creating new dialects and hybrid languages. The research highlights the importance of sociolinguistics in describing social status, improving social mobility through language use, and investigating dialect phenomena. The findings emphasize that language is a dynamic entity, constantly adapting to social, cultural, and technological changes, reflecting the diverse and evolving nature of human communication.

Keywords: Language Change, Internal Language Change, External Language Change

1. Introduction

Changes and developments in language, both nationally (ethnic languages) and internationally (racial languages), are difficult to avoid. This occurs as a result of cultural acculturation, preceded by the process of speakers of one language moving to environments of speakers of another language, leading to the emergence of new dialects, creation of new words, and often changes in syntactic structure. However, languages can change and evolve on their own gradually, adapting to the development and changing patterns and systems of life in their speaker communities, such as education level, social, cultural aspects, and even technological mastery.

According to Poedjosoedarmo (2009), language change processes vary; at least two types can be identified: (1) internal changes that occur within its grammar system. These changes usually happen gradually; (2) external changes caused by influences from other languages. These changes can occur relatively quickly, typically starting with lexical richness. The more intensive the language contact, the more extensive the changes. External changes are not limited to lexical richness but can extend to other language elements.

Regarding internal changes in grammar and vocabulary formation, this article will outline the historical development and changes of two languages originating from the same language family, namely German and English. Due to language development and changes, both languages have experienced changes in their structures and vocabulary formations. As for external language changes, the author will link the presence of a language in another language environment in a multilingual society, which of course cannot be separated from the connection of language with social and cultural aspects (sociolinguistics).

Sociolinguistics, etymologically speaking, combines sociology and linguistics. Thus, sociolinguistics is an integration of two disciplines, sociology and linguistics. Fishman in Soewito (1983), tends to use "sociology of language," considering that this study fundamentally examines social issues in relation to language use. This view is reinforced by Holmes (1992) who states, "sociolinguistics study the relationship between language and society." These opinions indicate a very close relationship between language and society. Language, as a social product, is intricately connected

to various aspects to facilitate its maximal use by humans in communication and interaction with each other. In sociolinguistics, language is not viewed or approached as it is in general linguistics but as a means of interaction or communication within human society. Every human social activity, from naming ceremonies for newborns to funeral rites, inevitably involves language use. Therefore, any formulation concerning sociolinguistics provided by experts cannot avoid the issue of the relationship between language and social or community activities.

In society, an individual is not viewed as separate from others but as a member of their social group. Therefore, language and its usage are not observed individually but are always linked to activities within society. Each person has different ways of using language. Differences can be observed in terms of accent, intonation, word choice, sentence structure, ways of expressing ideas, and so forth. In other words, differences can be distinguished phonetically and phonemically. The specific characteristics (characteristics) of individual language use are known as idiolect (Haryono, 2002).

Fishman (1971) suggests that heterogeneous language use within a group can be identified by considering the existence of various dialects. Dialects indicate specific language usage in certain regions or levels of society, which differ from language use in other areas due to regional differences. Geographical differences in language usage due to the origin of speakers are called geographical dialects, while differences in language usage due to differences in the social status and level of social organization of speakers are called social dialects (sociolect).

Dialectical differences within a language often concern not only class differences within but also extend beyond regional differences. Differences in social status and social level, observed and responded to by people in a society, are systematically described by sociologists and involve much more behaviour than just speaking habits. These behavioural aspects are crucial because social insecurity in speech can be perceived. A linguist is someone who qualifies to formally describe and classify language characteristics at all linguistic levels. Prof. Higgins, a figure in Bernard Shaw's work, further suggests that if a linguist is a skilled phonetician, they can help people "improve their social status" through language use (Robins, 1992).

Thus, sociolinguistics or language society is a study that examines the relationship between language and its use in society. Therefore, it can be mapped out that sociolinguistics has at least three tasks: 1. Describing the system of social status and social level in relation to speech habits in society. 2. Helping individuals improve their social status through language use and finding solutions to the problems of bilingualism or multilingualism within their society. 3. Investigating dialect phenomena in bilingual or multilingual societies in relation to language changes and developments. Based on the above phenomena, the issues to be discussed in this article are: (1) how do internal language changes develop historically?; (2) how do external language changes relate to language's connections with social and cultural aspects (sociolinguistics)?

2. Methodology

The approach used in this research is qualitative. According to Bogdan & Taylor (1975), qualitative approach is a research procedure that produces descriptive data in the form of written or oral information from individuals and observable behaviours. Meanwhile, literature review is employed to examine various literature that can serve as examples and references in the analysis related to the discussed topic.

Participant observation is utilized to obtain primary data directly concerning the development and changes of language within the speech community. Interviews are conducted to gather supporting data related to the research issues. Interviews are carried out with key informants, primary informants, and supporting informants. This technique serves to obtain information that cannot be directly observed as it resides within the minds of individuals.

Recording activities are performed to meticulously document all data obtained from the field on the same day. This is done to avoid the possibility of forgetting or overlapping data and information obtained, whether through participant observation or from research informants. The data successfully gathered and collected are then classified and subjected to interpretation through descriptive-qualitative analysis. With this analytical model, the data obtained will be detailed and deeply analyzed according to the research issues.

3. Results and Discussion

Internal Language Changes

Internal changes fundamentally refer to alterations occurring within the language itself, particularly in its grammatical system. These changes can affect its phonological system (intonation patterns in sentences and prosodic patterns of words) and the sequence of phrases in sentences. These shifts originate from the everyday behaviours of speakers adapting to one another, followed by a tendency to innovate within familiar societal groups. These initial changes gradually lead to a chain of subsequent changes, ultimately distinguishing these languages from one another (Poedjosoedarmo, 2006, 2008).

To delve deeper into the internal changes and developments of language, the evolution of English and German languages will be discussed in the following periods:

3.1. Development and Changes in English Language

The evolution of the English language over fifteen centuries has continuously unfolded in England. This development recognizes three periods in the history of the English language, serving as suitable markers for linguistic changes:

1. **Old English:** During this period, there were various dialects including Northumbrian, Mercian, West Saxon, and Kentish. Generally, differences between Old English and Modern English lie in spelling, pronunciation, vowels, and grammar structure (Albert C. Baugh, 1963:62, Haryono, 2002).
2. **Middle English:** The Middle English period (1150 - 1500) witnessed significant and extensive linguistic changes. These changes profoundly affected English grammar and vocabulary, notably reducing inflections in English grammar, marking a significant difference in analysis (Albert C. Baugh, 1963:189, Haryono, 2002).
3. **Modern English:** In the 19th century, personal pronouns underwent changes into different forms from their original forms. Notably, 'thou,' 'thy,' and 'thee' were replaced, 'ye' became 'you,' and 'its' was introduced as the possessive form of 'it.' These changes started around the 17th century and later gained regular forms for both cases (Albert C. Baugh, 1963:189, Haryono, 2002).

Among the developments in English language, the evolution of pronouns is particularly intriguing. During this period, new neuter possessive forms like 'its' emerged. In Old English, the neuter pronoun was inflected as 'hit,' 'his,' 'him,' 'hit.' In Middle English, the dative and accusative forms merged into 'hit,' 'his,' 'hit.' By the early modern period, 'it' became the commonly used form for both subject and object positions and 'its' became established as a possessive form (Albert C. Baugh, 1963:294, Haryono, 2002).

Development and Changes in German Language

The German language (Deutsch) belongs to the Germanic language family, historically documented to have begun with its earliest contacts with the Roman Empire in the early first century. During this time and the subsequent centuries, there existed a single Germanic language with minor dialectal variations. However, after consonant shifts or changes, new dialects emerged within the German language (High German).

Early Period (Old Period) (C 750-1050) The language was best described as a collection of dialects during this period. Documents from this era reveal a struggle for power to accelerate new concepts in Germany. This phenomenon successfully led to the listing of translations of Latin words and their subsequent translation processes. This period also saw significant absorption of Latin vocabulary, most of which had connections with the Christianization of Germany. Subsequent consonant shifts did not exhibit effects such as:

- "predigan" (modern: predigen) from the Latin word "predicare,"
- "tempal" (modern: temple) from Latin "templum,"
- "spiagal" (Mirror) (modern: Spiegel) from Latin "speculum" (Haryono, 2002).

Middle Period (Middle High German) (circa 1050-1350) It is assumed that the Middle High German period began around 1050, marked by various internal changes within the language itself, including:

- Voiceless consonant changes at the end of b, d, g (now spelled again, but pronounced with p, t, k),
- Reduction in vowel sounds overall without syllable stress on /a/, typically spelled /e/,
- Plural forms of the word "day" in Old German as nominative and accusative: "Taga," genitive: "Tago," dative: "Tagun." In Middle German, this evolved into "Tage, Tagen" (and modern "Tag, Tage, Tagen").

Geographical and Major Changes in Usage German Language Early Modern Period (circa 1350-1650) Four important events, namely the growth of trade, the rise of the middle class, the invention of printing, and the Reformation, significantly influenced the development of the language. Gradually, German dialects were used as the official language in offices and states, including Saxony. This type of German language then slowly developed into modern standard German. Pronounced vowel changes characterize this period (Haryono, 2002).

Modern Period (1650 - present) The most notable developments in this period were the increasing standardization of the German language and its acceptance as a supra-dialogue form. Nouns in the language since then have been clearly classified into genders: (1) masculine: "der Mann" (the man), (2) feminine: "die Frau" (the woman), and (3) neuter: "das Kind" (the child). These nouns undergo changes for four cases: nominative, accusative, dative, and genitive. Adjectives and specific changes in nouns are adjusted according to gender, number, and case, as shown in various examples (Haryono, 2002). **Explanation and Examples on the Stage of Periodization** These stages indicate the development and changes in the German and English languages in terms of vocabulary, phonemes, words, phonemes, and structure. This shows changes and language developments from the background of the Indo-European family, caused by the behavior of speakers and geographical changes in language use.

3.2. External Changes in Language

External changes in language refer to the changes and developments in language resulting from contact between one language and another (Poedjosoedarmo, 2008). In daily activities, humans interact globally and across ethnicities within a country. These activities are driven by various interests such as economic, political, religious propagation, thirst for knowledge, exchange of arts and culture, and the desire to master new technologies. These diverse interests have led to

meetings and interactions both internationally and inter-ethnically, causing languages used as communication tools to influence each other.

The influence of Islam's introduction to Indonesia has resulted in numerous loanwords from Arabic into Indonesian, such as "musyawarah" (consultation), "sahih" (valid), "ikhtiar" (effort), among others. Similarly, the influx of Hinduism enriched the vocabulary of Javanese and Malay (Indonesian) languages with words derived from Sanskrit. Dutch colonization also contributed many words to the Indonesian language. Furthermore, advancements in science and technology introduced numerous English words and terms into various languages. Trade contacts with other nations have introduced many business terms into Indonesian vocabulary.

In Indonesia, social interactions among different ethnic communities, who often live in multilingual and multiethnic environments, have also significantly influenced language. According to Poedjosoedarmo (2008), these social contacts have resulted in: (1) the introduction of loanwords, (2) the introduction of new morphological elements, (3) the introduction of new phonemes, and (4) the introduction of new speech variations.

These impacts are evident in the phenomena of multilingual and multiethnic societies, such as in Jember. In Jember, there is a mixed language known as "Jemberan," which combines Javanese and Madurese influences, creating a new language and culture. This linguistic hybridity has not yet established standardized terms; some refer to it as "Pendhalungan culture." Similarly, in Malang, there is a form of Javanese known for its playful manipulation of words, while Surabaya is famous for its distinct speech patterns ("cak-cuk"). These examples illustrate the ongoing creation of new languages influenced by cultural interactions and linguistic blending, reflecting the dynamic nature of language evolution in diverse societies like Indonesia.

No.	Bahasa Jemberan	Meaning
1.	metao'	pretentious, acting like they know everything
2.	bu' masibu'	acting busy
3.	mara	Let's go!
4.	carpak	really lying, lying so much
5.	dim	mekodim, acting firm. Possibly originated from Kodim = military = firm

Emergence of Hybrid Languages and Cultures

Most of our children in the Tapal Kuda area (Jember, Bondowoso, Situbondo, and Lumajang) can no longer speak Javanese or Madurese. From a young age, they grow up in an environment where Indonesian is spoken, with vocabulary adopted from Javanese and Madurese. Sometimes I am amused by the children's language in Jember during their small arguments.

"You're so 'maluan'!" (You're so shy!)

"If you, 'mbak', like to 'bilang'!" (If you, miss, like to tell others!)

The word 'maluan' is derived from the word 'malu' (shy) and formed based on the imitation of Javanese word formation: 'isin – isinan' and Madurese: 'todus – todusan' (shy - shy person). Similarly, the word 'bilang' comes from 'bilang' (to say something to someone else) in Javanese word formation: 'ngomong – ngomongan', and Madurese: 'madhul – madhulan' (say - like to say something to others). Although 'bilang' has a different connotation in mathematics. At that time, it led to a funny question from the girl: "Is 'bilang' even or odd, kid?". It became a concerning joke.

Historically, the EM community in Jember was initially a monolingual community. This means they only mastered and used one language as a means of social interaction, namely the Madurese language (BM). Most of the EM population in Jember mastered and used BM as a means of intra-ethnic communication.

Along with the social-geographic isolation melting through trade (economy), jobs, education, and tourism, the EM community in Jember was forced to interact not only with their ethnic group but also with other ethnic groups, making language contact inevitable. As a result, the EM community in Jember is no longer monolingual but has become bilingual, and even tends towards multilingualism. Thus, a new language variety of the Jember community was formed, such as:

EJ: Where is Mr. Kampung's house? Far, sir?

EM: About five houses away.

EM in Jember chooses to use Javanese (BJ) krama if speaking to ethnic Javanese (EJ) who speak in BJ krama. If EJ starts using BJ krama, EM responds with BJ krama as well. Henceforth, they use BJ krama as a means of conversation.

The writer, with a Java-Madura ethnic background, once met with an elementary school head (KSD) in Bondowoso, Budi Setyono. Judging by his name, he is a native Javanese speaker, ethnically different from the writer. However, based on the Indonesian dialect used, the writer perceived him as Madurese or at least of Pendalungan ethnicity. This can be seen from the variety of Indonesian used, showing the Madurese dialect.

Writer: What is the reason for the children choosing your school for KKN, even though there are still many schools in Jember that need their help?

KSD: Well, sir, I don't know, I already told them, you will still have a lot of expenses, compared to choosing a KKN location in Jember.

Writer: How have they been doing here, sir?

KSD: Alhamdulillah, they are very active, and can make the students not shy.

The words 'endak' (not) and 'luang' (to spend) characterize the use of Indonesian with a Madurese dialect, especially in the Tapal Kuda area (Jember, Bondowoso, Situbondo, Banyuwangi, and Lumajang). Likewise, the reduplication 'tif-aktif' (very active) refers to the reduplication of Madurese vocabulary 'ter-pènter' (many who are smart), 'ghus-bhagus' (many who are good), 'ghih-tèngghih' (many who are tall), and the word formation 'maluan' (shy person) referring to Madurese 'todus – todusan' (shy – shy person), also characterizes Indonesian used by Madurese speakers.

The initial introduction in Indonesian led the writer to switch to Madurese conversation. Fortunately, before that, the writer asked about his origin, which turned out to be from Blitar (native Javanese speaker). He has been living in Bondowoso for about 20 years, where most people are of Madurese ethnicity, and married a native Madurese speaker. This might have changed the variety of Indonesian Javanese to the Indonesian Madurese dialect, thus misleading others' perception. If different nations meet in a completely new place for a long time, a mixed language or pidgin and creole language may arise. Pidgin occurs when each group has a different language, and they live closely together continuously, and none of their languages can be used together.

Vocabulary can be absorbed from other languages in a very short time. Many loanwords from Portuguese, Dutch, Sanskrit, Arabic, Chinese, and Javanese to Indonesian occurred in just a century or two. The deeper the influence received, the more elements of other languages enter, such as morphosyntactic elements, phonology, and speech variations. Deep influences come through the adoption of new religions and political colonization. Certain morphological elements from Sanskrit and Arabic have been absorbed into Indonesian through the adoption of Hinduism, Buddhism, and Islam. A large number of loanwords and morphological elements from Dutch came through colonization. Trade contact between China and Indonesia only resulted in a few loanwords in Indonesian.

These phenomena of linguistic change emphasize sociolinguistic studies that examine the relationship between language use in social contexts and even social phenomena in society. Sociolinguistic studies aim to observe and analyze language use from different social classes and the language used by people moving from one region to another. From various language phenomena and symptoms observed and studied carefully through sociolinguistic studies, findings of language changes have emerged, covering: social dialects, ethnic dialects, gender-based dialects, code-switching and code-mixing, language functions and positions in certain social environments, differences in speech levels based on speech participants, and many more changes in language from a sociolinguistic perspective.

4. Conclusion

Internal changes are changes and developments within the language itself in the grammatical system, usually affecting the phonological system (sentence intonation patterns and word prosody patterns), phrase order patterns in sentences, and the use of case and gender functions in sentences. These changes initially occur in the behaviour of speakers in their daily lives to adapt to each other, followed by an innovative tendency in closely-knit communities. Gradual changes are followed by other changes in a chain reaction, ultimately making the languages different from each other.

External changes are changes and developments in language caused by contact between one language and another, where humans as social and cultural beings have interacted with other nations in the world and among ethnic groups in a country. Human activities are driven by various interests, such as economic, political, religious propagation, thirst for knowledge, exchange of arts and cultures, and the desire to master new technologies. These various interests have led to meetings and interactions both among nations and among ethnic groups, causing the languages used as communication tools to influence each other. Consequently, language changes are inevitable. These changes can include social dialects, ethnic dialects, gender-based dialects, code-switching and code-mixing, language functions and positions in certain social environments, differences in speech levels based on speech participants, and many more language changes from an external perspective in sociolinguistic studies.

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