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# THE MORPHOLOGICAL TYPOLOGY ANALYSIS OF SUNDANESE INFIX AS PLURAL MARKER

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Abstract---This research is focused on Sundanese language spoken by more than 30 million of Sundanese people, an Austronesia ethnic group in West Java and Banten province which is located at the western part of the Indonesian island. This ethnic group deals mainly with the morphological typology of Sundanese infixes. The objectives of this research, however, are 1) to find out the kinds of Sundanese infixes showing plural markers, 2) word syntactic categories using Sundanese infixes that show plural forms, and 3) the meaning of the words analyzed. The main data sources of this qualitative research are taken from both books and written information that already existed about the language studied and sources originating from native speakers of the language studied (Mallinson and Blake,1981). The results of the research show that 1) there three kinds of Sundanese infixes -ar-, -um-, and -in-, while -al- is the allomorph form of infix -ar-, and the only Sundanese infix showing plural marker is -ar-, 2) the syntactic categories of the words using Sundanese infix are Noun (N) as in budak (child)  $\Rightarrow$  barudak (children), Verb (V) as in bobo (sleep)  $\Rightarrow$  barobo, Adjective (Adj.) as in geulis (beautiful)  $\Rightarrow$  gareulis and Adverb (Adv.) as in di jero (inside)  $\Rightarrow$  di jarero, 3) The grammatical category of -ar- infix refers to number showing plural marker, and the grammatical meanings of -ar- occurred to Noun (N), Verb (V), Adjective (Adj.) and Adverb (Adv.) are respectively plural (Noun), many persons who (Verb), many person who are (Adj.) and many persons who are (Adv.)

**Key words---**Sundanese, morphology, typology, plural marker, infix

# I. Introduction

As an agglutinative language, Sundanese is a type of language where words are made up of different types of morphemes to determine their meaning. In other words, affixation as the morphological process whereby an affix (prefix, infix or suffix) attached to a root or stem to create either a different form of that word. The set of affixes that make up the category of bound morphemes are divided into two types namely: derivational morphemes and inflectional morphemes. Derivational morphemes refer to when bound morphemes are used to create new words or to make words of a different grammatical class from the stem (Yule, 2010:69). For instance, the addition of the derivational morpheme –ity changes the word regular which is a adjective to regularity which is a noun; whereas, inflectional morphemes do not produce new words in a language, but rather denote some aspects of the grammatical function of a word. For example a –s is added to the word book to make it books which is in plural. –ed is added to the word need and became needed which is in a past tense. There are only eight inflectional morphemes in English, namely: -s (plural), -'s (possessive), -er (comparative), -est

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(superlative), -s (third person singular present tense), -ed (past tense), -ing (progressive), -en (past participle) as seen the table below:

Table 1. Inflectional Morphemes of English

English Inflectional	Markers	Added to	Examples
Morphemes			
-S	plural	Nouns	Many International tourists will get to Bali
			island soon.
-'s	possessive	Nouns	Bali's tourist attractions are famous.
-er	comparative	Adjectives	Bali island is larger that Nias island.
-est	superlative	Adjectives	Bali has the highest statue.
-S	3 <sup>rd</sup> person	Verbs	Bali attracts local and international tourists
	singular		
	present tense		
-ed	past tense	Verbs	Terrorists bombed Bali a few years ago.
-ing	progressive	Verbs	George and his family are living in Bali
			now
-en	past participle	Verbs	Have you ever flown to Bali island?

In English all derivational morphemes belong to prefix and suffix, whereas all inflectional morphemes belong to suffix, and English has no infix as Plag (2003:101) says that morphologists usually agree that English has no infixes. From the table above, it can also be seen that the English plural marker in the form of -s suffix belongs to inflectional morpheme. The objectives of this research are trying to find out the kinds of Sundanese infixes showing plural markers, word syntactic categories using Sundanese infixes showing plural forms, and the meaning of the words analyzed.

#### **II.** Literature Review

### Austronesian – Agglutinative Language

There are generally estimated to be about 4,000 to 6,000 languages in the world (Song,2001:1) and Sundanese language is one of those languages. It is spoken by more than 34 million people in Indonesia (Mulyanah, 2017) and is concentrated in the western part of Java island. Therefore, Sundanese ranks the second largest spoken language in Indonesia after the Javanese. Based on linguistic typology classification, Sundanese belongs to Austronesian language family group formerly Malayo-Polynesian languages. The family of languages stretching from Southeast Asia to the westernmost islands of the Pacific. Austronesian is not only geographically large, but it also contains over 1200 of the world's languages (SIL 1996). Regarding Austronesian languages, Blust (2017) says,

The languages are spoken in most of the Indonesian archipelago; all of the Philippines, Madagascar, and the island groups of the Central and South Pacific (except for Australia and much of New Guinea); much of Malaysia; and scattered areas of Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos, and Taiwan. In terms of the number of its languages and of their geographic spread, the Austronesian language family is among the world's largest.

Sundanese based on morphological typology also belong to one of agglutinative languages in which words are formed by affixes (prefixes, suffixes, and infixes) attaching to a stem or root. In other words, affixation as one of morphological processes to create new words play a very important role in agglutinative languages such Sundanese. Different form English, in addition to prefixes in which grammatical elements are attached to the beginnings of words and suffixes which attach to the beginnings of words, Sundanese has infixes where grammatical elements are inserted within the body of the word and confixes

or the so-called circumfixes which are composed of at least one prefix and one suffix, placed on either side of a root word. They are used extensively in Indonesian and Malay (<a href="https://www.wisegeek.com">https://www.wisegeek.com</a>). Morphological process of affixation in Sundanese can be seen in the following table.

Tabel 2. Morphological Process of Affixation in Sundanese

Prefix	Lexeme	Word	Word	Word Class	Meaning
		Class			
nga-	godok	adjective	<b>nga</b> godok	verb	boil
di-	sada	noun	<b>di</b> sada	verb	sound
ра-	damel	verb	<b>pa</b> damel	noun	worker
ka-	candak	verb	<b>ka</b> candak	adjective	carried
sa-	gunung	noun	<b>sa</b> gunung	adjective	mountain
Infix	Lexeme	Word	Word	Word Class	Meaning
		Class			
-ar-	datang	verb	d <b>ar</b> atang	verb	come (pl)
-al-	lumpat	verb	l <b>al</b> umpat	verb	run (pl)
-um-	geulis	adjective	gumeulis	adjective	pretty
-um-	tetep	verb	t <b>um</b> etep	verb	stay (pl)
-in-	serat	verb	s <b>in</b> erat	adjective	written
Suffix	Lexeme	Word	Word	Word Class	Meaning
		Class			
-an	seuseuh	verb	seuseuh <b>an</b>	noun	loundry
-keun	leutik	adjective	leuti <b>keun</b>	verb	make it smaller
-na	imah	noun	imah <b>na</b>	noun	his / her house
-eun	raos	adjective	raoseun	adjective	comfortable
-an	ratus	noun	ratus <b>an</b>	noun	hundreds
Confix	Lexeme	Word	Word	Word Class	Meaning
		Class			
ka-an	tiris	adjective	<b>ka</b> tiris <b>an</b>	noun	feeling cold
di-keun	tangtung	verb	<b>di</b> tangtung <b>keun</b>	verb	stood up
pang- na	geulis	adjective	<b>pang</b> geulis <b>na</b>	adjective	the prettiest
pa-an	mandi	verb	<b>pa</b> mandi <b>an</b>	noun	bathing place
nga-an	beureum	adjective	<b>nga</b> beureum <b>an</b>	verb	make

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something red

From the table above, it can be seen that Sundanese Language has three kinds of infix; -ar,

-um-, and -in- as in seen in the following examples:

 $joget (dance/V) \rightarrow jaroget (dance/pl*),$ 

geulis (beautiful/Adj.)  $\rightarrow$  gumeulis (pretending to be beautiful)

*tulis* (write /V)  $\rightarrow$  *tinulis* (to be written)

while -al- is allomorph of infix -ar- due to the fact that the stem is started with /l/consonant as in:

 $lumpat (run/V) \rightarrow lalumpat (run/pl*), or$ 

 $lieur (dizzy/Adj.) \rightarrow lalieur (dizzy/pl*)$ 

Plural (pl) means that they are only used for many people

### **Grammatical Meaning of Affixation**

According to Lyons (1995:52) different forms of the same will generally, though not necessarily, differ in meaning: they will share the same lexical meaning, but differ in respect of their grammatical meaning. For instance, the forms of *student* and *students* have the same lexical meaning(meanings); but they differ in respect of their grammatical meaning, in that one is the singular form (of a noun of a particular class) and the other is plural form (of a noun of a particular class); the difference between singular forms and plural forms is semantically relevant: it affects sentence-meaning. The meaning of a sentence is determined partly by the meaning of the words (i.e. lexemes) of which it consists and partly by its grammatical meaning. Hence, the addition of prefixes, infixes or suffixes to lexemes or words may result in the change of grammatical meaning of the words. Similarly Chaer (2009:62) says that grammatical meaning is the meaning in existence as a result of morphological process such as affixation.

Kridalaksana explains several categories of grammatical meaning due to affixation process are classified into:

1. **Number**, the affixation process especially in English can distinguish a single category from a plural category. For example,

```
boy (boy /N/ sing.) \rightarrow boys (boys / N/pl.), (English) class (class / N/sing.) \rightarrow classes (classes /N/ pl.) (English)
```

This also happens to Arabic which are familiar with singular, dualist and plural categories.

For example,

```
muslimun (a moeslem /N/ sing.) → muslima:ni (two moeslems / dualists) → muslimu:na (moeslem/N/ plural)
```

2. **Gender**, in some languages the addition of affixes to a word can distinguish whether the word is classified as masculine or feminism or neutral.

For example,

```
    karyawan (male employee) → karyawati (female employee) (Indonesian)
    actor→ actress (N), lion (N) → lioness (English)
    kabi: run (large / Adj/masculine) → kabi: ratun (large / feminine) (Arabic)
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3. **Possession**. in English possessive adjective is placed before a noun or pronoun such as *my, your, his, her, its, our, their* to show who or what owns it, it is not a bound morpheme (affix). In other words, the placement of possessive adjective before a noun is not an affixation process, but in Indonesian and Sundanese, it belongs to affixation process.

For example,

```
rumah (house /N) \rightarrow rumahnya (his/her house) (Indonesian) mobil (car/N) \rightarrow mobilna (his/her car) (Sundanese)
```

4. **Time.** It refers to tense which denotes the time an action takes place, whether sometime in the past, in the present or will take some time in the future. It is shown by suffixes attached to verbs e.g. -s/es (The 3<sup>rd</sup> person singular0, -ed (simple past), -ing (progressive) and -en (past participle) as seen in table 1. It also occurs to the past form of Japanese as see in examples below.

```
arukimasu (walk/V) \rightarrow arukimasita (walked) ikimasu (go/V) \rightarrow ikimasita (went)
```

5. **Personal Pronoun.** In English it is a pronoun associated primarily with a particular person, in the grammatical sense, they can be used with any of the three grammatical persons, i.e. first-person: I (singular). We (plural), second-person: You (singular, plural), or third-person: She, He, It (Singular) and They (plural). They can stand by themselves as words not as bound morphemes. Conversely, in Swahili (East Africa) they belong to bound morphemes, as seen in the following examples:

```
wamempiga (they hit him)

tumempiga (we hit it)

nimempiga (I hit him)

uempiga (you hit him)

amempiga (he hit him)
```

#### III. Methods

This research is a descriptive qualitative research as it aims at revealing the naturalistic data, events, facts, circumstances, phenomena, and variables that occurred during the research by presenting what actually happened. The main data in this research are Sundanese sentences or utterances that contain infixation taken from existing Sundanese books, Sundanese magazine and Sundanese native speakers as it is in accordance with what Mallinson and Blake (1981:12-18) say that there are three sources of data in linguistic research, namely 1) sources derived from books or written information that already exists about the language studied, 2) source derived from examples used by other authors who are organized as truth and 3) sources originating from native speakers of the language studied. The steps of how the this research is conducted are: collecting the data on Sundanese infixes showing plural markers, classifying them based on the syntactic categories of the infixed words, interpreting and analyzing the data of the research dealing grammatical meaning of the words infixed.

#### IV. Findings and Discussion

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Sundanese language has three kinds of infixes so called *rarangken tengah* (Sundanese) (Sudaryat, 2005), namely *-ar-*, *-um-*, and *-in-* while *-al-* is the allomorph of infix *-ar-* as the stem infixed is started with /l/ consonant as explained above; however, the uniqueness of Sundanese infix *-ar-* is that it has something to do with number or plural form the words. Let's have a look at the following utterances, a typical Sundanese spoken language, in a local television soap opera telling a mother who lives simply with her husband and five children.

```
[1] "Hey, barudak, karasep, gareulis entong garandeng

Hi child (N), handsome (Adj.), beautiful (Adj.) not noisy (adj.)

bapak jeung si ade keur barobo."

Father and the (Art) baby (Prog) sleeping (V)
```

"Hi kids, the handsome, the pretty do not be noisy, (because) (your) father and the baby are sleeping"...

[2] "Cing tong <u>lalumpatan</u> wae di imah, di <u>laluar</u> geura!"

Please not chase (V) at home, (go) outside (Adv)

"Please do not chase at home,(go) outside!"

- [3] "Ari Udin ku naon baju teh meni <u>bararodas</u>, jeung beungeut <u>bariru</u> kitu?
  - (Art) Udin what's wrong cloth many white (Adj.) and face blue (Adj.)

"What's wrong with you cloth Udin (as)there are many white spot on your cloth, and your face is black and blue"

- [4] "Asa <u>lalieur</u> jalma-jalma ayeuna mah teu <u>daraek</u> <u>caricing</u> di imah" get confused (Adj) people nowadays not want (V) stay (V) at home "I get confused with the people nowadays (because) they don't want to stay at home."
- [5] "<u>Tarahu</u>....tarahu...aya anu <u>barade</u> tahu?"

  Tofu (V) tofu any(one) who want (V) tofu?
  "Tofu...Tofu is there anyone who wants to buy tofu?"

From the data on infixes -ar- above, there are some following points that can be put forward:

1. If the infix-ar- is inserted to a singular form of noun, the noun will turn to be plural. In other words, the grammatical meaning is categorized or related to number (singular/plural)

For example:

```
budak (Child/N/ singular) → barudak (Children/N/plural)
tahu (Tofu/N/singular) → tarahu (tofu/N/Plural)
```

2. Infix -ar- does not only occur to like the example above, but also occur to verbs. The grammatical meaning refers to number (singular/plural) which means 'many do'.

For example:

bobo (sleep/V) → barobo (sleep/V meaning many persons who sleep.

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lumpat (chase/V)  $\rightarrow lalumpat$  (chase/V) meaning many persons who chase. daek (want/V)  $\rightarrow daraek$  (want/V) meaning many persons who want. cicing (stay/V)  $\rightarrow caricing$  (stay/V) meaning many persons who stay. bade (want/V)  $\rightarrow barade$  (want/V) meaning many persons who want.

In fact infix -ar- taken place to verb can be also combined some confixes or sircumfixes such as  $\{di-, -keun\}$  as in bobo (sleep/V)  $\rightarrow$  barobo (sleep/V meaning many person who sleep  $\rightarrow$  dibarobokeun (meaning many persons who are put to sleep). It has passive meaning.

3. Adjectives (Adj.) can also be inserted with infix -ar- which means more than one person who are ... (plural grammatical meaning).

For example:

kasep (handsome/Adj.)  $\rightarrow karasep$  (handsome/Adj.) meaning more than one person who are handsome)

geulis (beautiful/Adj.)  $\rightarrow$  gareulis (beautiful/Adj.) meaning more than one person who are beautiful)

 $gandeng \text{ (noisy/Adj.)} \rightarrow garandeng \text{ (noisy/Adj.)}$  meaning more than one person who makes a noise

bodas (white/V)→ bararodas (white/Adj.) meaning having many while spots.

biru (blue/V) → bariru (blue/Adj) meaning having many bruises over one's face or body.

lieur (confused /Adj.) → lalieur (confused /Adj) meaning many people get confused.

Besides having a grammatical meaning as mentioned above, it can also mean "many in a state" as in the following example:

Buah anu dibeli kamari geus barusuk.

mangoes which bought yesterday already rotten (Adj.).

The mangoes bought yesterday were already rotten.

- 4. Insertion of infix -ar- which may be inserted in the form of -al-, the allomorph of infix
  - -ar-, can also go to adverb of place meaning many persons who are

For example:

 $di\ luar\ ({\rm outside/Adv.})$  o  $di\ laluar\ ({\rm outside/Adv.})$  meaning many persons who outside.

Di jero (inside /Adv)  $\rightarrow$  di jarero (inside/Adv.) meaning many persons who are inside.

In short, the description of Sundanese infix -ar- taken place to Noun (N), Verb (V), Adjective (Adj.) and Adverb (Adv.) based on the obtained data can seen in the following table.

Tabel 3. Affixation Process of Sundanese Language

Infix	Sundanese	Grammatical	Word	Word	Word	Grammatical
	Lexeme	meaning	Class		Class	Meaning
-ar-	budak	a child	Noun	barudak	Noun	many
		(sing.)				children (pl)
-ar-	tahu	a tofu	Noun	tarahu	Noun	many tofu

						(pl)
-ar- bo	bobo	a person	Verb	barobo	Verb	many
		who sleeps				persons who
						sleep
-al-* lumpat	lumpat	a person	Verb	lalumpat	Verb	many
		who chases				persons who
					chase	
-ar-	daek	a person	Verb	daraek	Verb	many
		who wants				persons who
						want
-ar- cicing	cicing	a person	Verb	caricing	Verb	many
		who stays				persons who
						stay
-ar- b	bade	a person	Verb	barade	Verb	many
		who wants				persons who
						want
-ar-	kasep	a person	Adjective	karasep	Adjective	many
		who is				persons who as
-ar-	geulis	a person	Adjective	gareulis	Adjective	many
		who is				persons who as
-ar-	gandeng	a person	Adjective	garandeng	Adjective	many
		who makes				persons who
		noise				make noises
-ar-	bodas	something	Adjective	barodas	Adjective	many whit
		which is				spots
-ar-	biru	something	Adjective	bariru	Adjective	many blue
		which is				spots
-al-*	lieur	a person	Adjective	lalieur	Adjective	many
		who feels				persons who
		confused				feel confused
-ar-	di luar	a person	Adverb	di laluar	Adverb	many
		who is outside				persons who a
						outside
-ar-	di jero	a person	Adverb	di jarero	Adverb	many
		who is inside				persons who a
						inside

Note: -al-\* infix is the allomorph of -ar- infix

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## V. Conclusion

Based on the explanation above, it can be concluded as follows:

- 1. There are three infixes in Sundanese language, namely -ar-, -um- and -in- and Sundanese infix -ar- is the only infix which shows plural marker, while -al- is the allomorph form of -ar- as the initial letter of the stem infixed is /l/ consonant.
- 2. Different from English affixes showing plural marker is in the form of suffix which belongs to inflectional bound morpheme and it is only attached to Noun (N), *Sundanese* infix -ar- belongs to infix which is very productive, and additionally it does not only takes place to a Noun (N) as in *budak* (child) → *barudak* (children) but also to other syntactic categories of the words namely: Verb (V) as in *bobo* (sleep) → *barobo*, Adjective (Adj.) as in *geulis* (beautiful) → *gareulis* and Adverb (Adv.) as in *di jero* (inside) → di jarero.
- 3. The grammatical category of -ar- infix refers to number showing plural marker, and the grammatical meanings of -ar- occurred to Noun (N), Verb (V), Adjective (Adj.) and Adverb (Adv.) are respectively plural (Noun), many persons who (Verb), many person who are (Adj.) and many persons who are (Adv.)

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