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UNIQUENESS OF INDIGENOUS BIMANESE SPATIAL DEIXIS

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Abstract

We explored the types and the uniqueness of indigenous Bimanese language spatial deixis. We interviewed 25 Bimanese native speakers selected purposively from both the urban and suburban areas in Bima regency using an interview guide and some pictures. We analysed the types, forms, uses and meanings of indigenous Bimanese spatial deixis qualitatively. It indicates that the types of Bimanese language spatial deixis, 'proximal', 'medial or medieval' and 'distal' are unique. Although 'medieval deixis' was identified in another language, its forms and meanings are not identical. So far, 'location-direction structure' and 'motion/movement-direction structure' are Bimanese-specific spatial deixis structures. However, 'diagonal' cardinal points, such as 'south-west', as commonly used in English and Indonesian languages, are absent in Bimanese language. Uniquely, there is a 'non-oppositional' use of topographic deixis in Bimanese language. These findings contribute to the building or even criticizing existing sociolinguistic theories applicable in other languages. Due to the uniqueness of Bimanese deixis, non-native speakers have to recognize the appropriate meanings and their uses.

Keywords: spatial deixis, proximal, distal, cardinal point, topographic

SINGULARITAT DE LA DIXI ESPACIAL EN EL BIMANÈS INDÍGENA

Resum

En aquest treball s'ha explorat els tipus i la singularitat de la dixi espacial de la llengua bimanesa indígena. S'han entrevistat 25 parlants nadius bimanesos seleccionats intencionadament de les zones urbanes i suburbanes de la regència de Bima mitjançant una guia d'entrevistes i algunes imatges. S'han analitzat qualitativament els tipus, les formes, els usos i els significats de les dixis espacials indígenes bimaneses. S'ha observat que els tipus de dixi espacial de la llengua bimanesa, 'proximal', 'medial o

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medieval' i 'distal' són únics. Tot i que la 'dixi medieval' s'ha identificat en una altra llengua, les seves formes i significats no són idèntics. Fins ara, "l'estructura locació-direcció" i "l'estructura moviment-direcció" són estructures de dixi espacials específiques del bimanès. No obstant això, els punts cardinals "diagonals", com el "sud-oest", com s'utilitza habitualment en les llengües anglesa i indonèsia, estan absents en la llengua bimanesa. De manera única, hi ha un ús "no opositor" de la dixi topogràfica. Aquestes troballes contribueixen a construir o fins i tot a criticar les teories sociolingüístiques existents aplicables en altres llengües. A causa de la singularitat de la dixi bimanesa, els parlants no nadius n'han de reconèixer els significats adequats i els usos.

Paraules clau: deixis espacial, proximal, distal, punt cardinal, topogràfic

SINGULARIDAD DE LA DEIXIS ESPACIAL EN EL BIMANÉS INDÍGENA

Resumen

En este trabajo se han explorado los tipos y singularidad de la deixis espacial de la lengua bimanesa indígena. Se han entrevistado 25 hablantes nativos bimaneses seleccionados intencionalmente de zonas urbanas y suburbanas de la regencia de Bima mediante una guía de entrevistas y algunas imágenes. Se han analizado cualitativamente los tipos, formas, usos y significados de las deixis espaciales indígenas bimanesas. Se ha observado que los tipos de deixi espacial de la lengua bimanesa, 'proximal', 'medial o medieval' y 'distal' son únicos. Aunque la 'deixis medieval' se ha identificado en otra lengua, sus formas y significados no son idénticos. Hasta ahora, "la estructura locación-dirección" y "la estructura movimiento-dirección" son estructuras de deixis espaciales específicas del bimanés. Sin embargo, los puntos cardinales "diagonales", como el "suroeste", como se utiliza habitualmente en las lenguas inglesa e indonesia, están ausentes en bimanés. De forma única, existe un uso "no opositor" de la deixis topográfica. Estos hallazgos contribuyen a construir o incluso a criticar las teorías sociolingüísticas existentes aplicables en otras lenguas. Debido a la singularidad de la deixis bimanesa, los hablantes no nativos deben reconocer sus significados adecuados y sus usos.

Palabras clave: deixis espacial, proximal, distal, punto cardinal, topográfico

1. Introduction

Bima language is one of the three local indigenous languages in West Nusa Tenggara province Indonesia. It is spoken by Bimanese people living in the Bima District and Bima Municipality, eastern part of Sumbawa Island. Below is the map of West Nusa Tenggara province Indonesia which covers two main islands, Lombok and Sumbawa.



Figure 1. Map of West Nusa Tenggara province

Bimanese language, as identified in other languages, also has spatial deixis. The first question that scholars asked, “Do speakers of different languages all over the world process the spatial world indicated by the use of demonstratives in different ways as a result of the unique features of the languages that they use” (Deutscher 2010; Li *et al.* 2011)? This question is worth interpreting because it encourages linguists to do further studies on demonstratives, spatial deixis in particular, used by the speakers of the languages. Researching and discussing deixis will never end.

2. Literature review

In general, there are three categories of deixis found in languages: personal deixis (*I, you, we*), spatial deixis (*this, that, here, there*), and temporal deixis (*now, today, yesterday*) organized into five deictic centers: (i) central person (the speaker), (ii) central time (the time at which the utterance is produce), (iii) central place (the speaker’s location at utterance time or coding time), (iv) the discourse center is the point which the speaker is currently at in the production of his utterance), and (v) the social center (the speaker’s social status and rank, to which the status or rank of addressees or referents is relative) (Levinson 1983). Do all apply to all languages?

Some studies on the aspects of deixis have been conducted worldwide, including Indonesia. Some studies on deixis conducted in Indonesia, namely, deixis in the

newspaper (Setiakawanti & Susanti 2018), deixis in Podcasts (Listiyarini *et al.* 2020), deixis in folktales (Ella 2016), deixis in novels (Muhyidin 2019), personal deixis of English and *Tukang Besi* (Novianti *et al.* 2018), deixis in fiction translation (Abualadas 2019; Goethals & De Wilde 2009; Abualadas 2018), Coventry *et al.* (2008), social modulation of spatial deixis (Rocca *et al.* 2019), spatial deixis and cognition (Gudde *et al.* 2018), honorific and social deixis (Mahmudova 2021), deixis in Balinese language, Bangli dialect (Kastini 2013), deixis used by university students (Sebastian *et al.* 2019), deixis in Manggarai language (Astrin 2021) and deixis in Bimanese language (Nurhidayati 2019). The very closely related study to the present study was conducted by Supriadin (2017) and it shows that in Bimanese language, spatial deixis covers demonstrative, location 'modifiers', angles of positions and topographic system. However, these findings are still too general, have not explicitly and concretely provided the specific sub-types, functions, uses, meanings, and factors determining the use. So, the present study 'discovered' and present those aspects of spatial deixis in Bimanese language concretely.

Sufficient understanding of the types, functions, uses and meanings of spatial deixis, demonstratives in general, facilitates the uses of the deixis and prevents the users from misuses and misunderstanding, which in turn minimizes negative impact of using deixis on language use and social interaction. As Diessel *et al.* (2021) suggest, demonstratives, including deixis, are very important and foundational to communication, spatial orientation, discourse processing, language acquisition, and the emergence of grammar. In relation to the importance and uniqueness of local languages in West Nusa Tenggara some students of Hong Kong University, accompanied by their professor, Prof. Diana Archangeli of the University of Arizona, conducted their field research in local languages in West Nusa Tenggara, including Bimanese language. During the discussions, we identified some issues, such as deixis, in those languages which need further investigations. That is why this paper aimed at presenting or disseminating the uniqueness of Bimanese spatial deixis.

As the basis for theoretical framework and formulation of Research Questions, the review of literature and some related research findings are elaborated as follows. To begin with, demonstratives have been studied intensively across several disciplines.

There is increasing evidence that demonstratives constitute a unique class of expressions, fundamentally distinct from all other types of linguistic items. In contrast to most other function words, demonstratives seem to exist in all languages and are not derived from content words (Diessel 2013). Demonstratives also play an important role in the encoding of reference in space (Coventry *et al.* 2008). Moreover, demonstratives are closely related to gestural communication, notably to pointing (Stukenbrock 2015). Overall, the current results indicate that peri-personal space is an important parameter in the mapping of perceptual space onto language, and are, as such, consistent with extant research and ideas on deictic demonstrative use (Coventry *et al.* 2014, Caldano & Coventry 2019, Peeters *et al.* 2021). One of the aspects of demonstratives is deixis.

Basically, deixis is derived from Greek, which is a technical term to point something using language, pointing via language (Yule 1996). Yule classifies deixis by indicating person through person deixis (me, you), location through spatial deixis (*here, there*), or time through *et al* temporal deixis (*now, then*) (Yule & Stalnaker 1996). Spatial Deixis is used to select a location relative to the speaker or recipient's location (Weissenborn & Klein 1982, Vaysi & Salehnejad 2016).

The most commonly used words as spatial deixis are the demonstrative pronouns “this”, “that”, “these” and “those”. Other words often used as deixis include “here”, “there”, “in”, “on”, “at” etc. (Eragbe *et al.* 2015). Spatial deictics basically include proximal and distal demonstratives like “this” and “that” and proximal and distal place adverbs such as “here” and “there” (Simpson 1993).

While the following studies suggest that spatial demonstratives do map onto perceptual space, demonstrative systems vary quite considerably across languages. Some languages have three-term demonstrative systems, which are usually regarded as distance oriented (Spanish: Levinson 2003), or person oriented (e.g., Japanese: Diessel 2005). Similarly, Dixon (2003) points out that a three-term system of demonstratives might convey either a relative distance (i.e., near, mid and far) or relate to the participant (i.e., near the speaker, near the hearer, near neither), but also to height, stance, visibility as well as elevation and movement (Breunese 2020).

Diessel (2014) suggests that spatial specifications are still relevant for the semantic analysis of demonstratives.

There are also other distinctions languages make, such as whether an object is visible or not (Tiriyó: Meira 2003; Quileute: Diessel 1999), whether an object is owned by the speaker (Supyire: Diessel 1999), and whether the object is elevated on the vertical plan (Dyirbal, Lahu: Diessel 1999). Based on Eragbe *et al.* 2015, in considering spatial deixis, however, it is important to remember that location from the speaker perspective can be fixed mentally as well as physically. In addition, spatial deixis refers to the physical and social environment or simply the space around the participants in a discourse, including the contexts. As a product of the ways in pointing, the language encodes, features of the context of utterance and also concerns ways in which the interpretation of utterances depends on the analysis of that context of utterance (Dylgjeri & Kazazi 2013). So, context determines the use and meanings of deixis.

The use and meanings of deixis are also related the extra linguistic context of the utterances, such as who is speaking, the time and place of speaking, the gesture of the speaker, or the current location in the discourse” (Lyons 1981, in Eragbe, Yakubu & State 2015), and psychological distance (Yule & Stalnaker 1996), even the systems of spatial deixis are also used in other domains (Saeed in Vaysi & Salehnejad 2016). Other parameters affecting the choice of demonstratives may refer to sociocentric proximity (Stevens & Zhang 2014, Peeters *et al.* 2015), semantic features (Rocca *et al.* 2019), ownership, visibility, and familiarity of referent (Coventry *et al.* 2014), and proximity/distance of referent in relation to both speaker and hearer (Coventry *et al.* 2008).

Based on the reported phenomena above and predicted issues in the use, meanings and uniqueness of Bimanese language spatial deixis, the Research Questions are formulated as follows:

- 1) What are the types of spatial deixis in Bimanese language?
- 2) What make(s) Bimanese spatial deixes unique and different from those of other languages?

3. Methods

3.1 Participants

25 Bimanese native speakers selected purposively, 5 urban people 20 from different suburbs, and minimum 25 years old.

3.2 Instruments

We used an interview guide and pictures aimed at discovering and ‘digging out’ the participants understanding of the uses and uniqueness of Bimanese spatial deixis. All talks and responses were recorded.

3.3 Procedures

We employed a simple elicitation paradigm in order to investigate the detailed types, forms, uses and meanings to discover the uniqueness and limitations of Bimanese spatial deixis. As a native speaker, we did not encounter any difficulties in prompting the participants’ responses and understanding of their native language. The pictures or illustrations were used to facilitate their accuracy in responding my questions, and we recorded the interview.

3.4 Data analysis

The procedures of qualitative data analysis are as follows. To begin with, identification and classification of the types, forms and uses of spatial deixis. Next, describe those ‘futures’ of spatial deixis by presenting some examples, making gloss and translating into English. Further explanation, as necessary, was followed by discussing and relating the findings to the previously related theories or studies.

Finally, inferences focusing on the uniqueness of Bimanese spatial deixes were presented.

4. Results and discussion

The paper presents two main categories of Bimanes spatial deixis, ‘relativity’ deixis and ‘parts of speech deixis’. More detailed examples and sufficient explanations or illustrations are presented. In relation to the phonology of spatial deixis in Bimanes language, there are two unique symbols of implosive consonants ‘voiceless bilabial implosive’ (ɓ) and ‘voiceless alveolar implosive’ (ɗ) used in this paper.

4.1 Relative location

The references to places can be relational or absolute in nature (Cummings 2005) implying relative location. Relative location refers to the position of a place or entity based on its position with respect to other locations, e.g. left or right. Relative location of people and things (Yule 2010) and demonstrative ‘this’ and ‘that’ relate to ‘proximal’ (close to the speaker) and ‘distal’ (close to the addressee) locations.

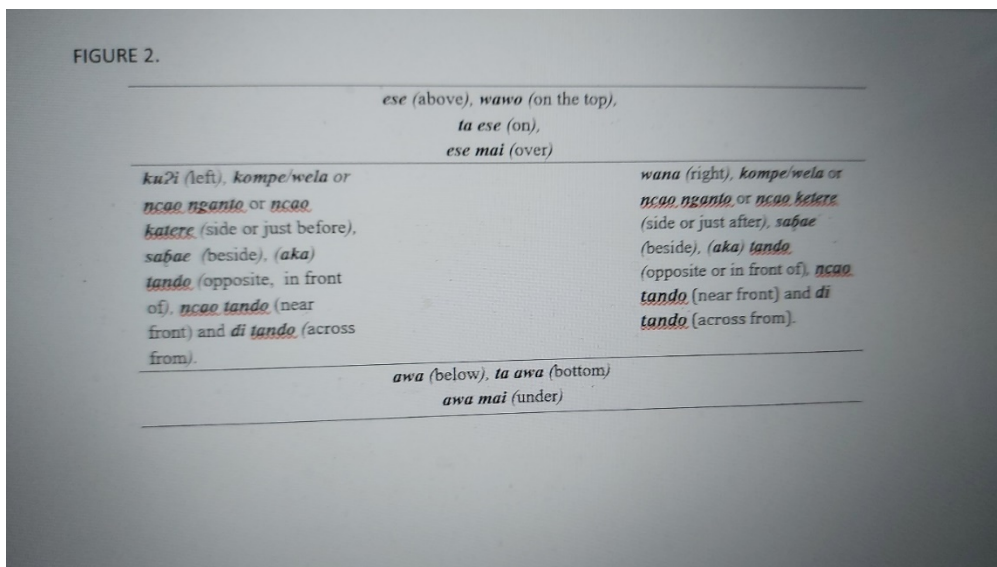


Figure 2. Diagram of relative location

The opposite structure of those forms are **tando-kontu** ‘front-back’, **kuʔi-wana** ‘left-right’, **kompe kui-kompe wana** ‘left side and right side’, **ese-awa** ‘above-beneath’, **ta ese-ta awa** ‘on the top-bottom’, **awa mai-ese mai** ‘under-over’, **ɖei** (or **ɖi**) **woha** ‘in the middle’.

This paper only presents one form of relative location *tando* (in front of).

(1) **Kanto pos** **‘di tando’** **uma sakola nahu.** <distal>
office post BE ‘across from’ school 1st POSS.
‘The post office is across from my school.’

(2) **Guru** **dan** **kepala sekolah** **kidi** **‘ncao tando.’** <proximal>
teacher CONJ ART headmaster BE CONT [stand] ‘face to face’.
‘The teacher and headmaster are standing face to face.’

(3) **Lapangan bola** **wara ‘(aka) tando’** **uma nahu.** <relative proximity>.
court football BE ‘in front of’ house 1st POSS.
‘The football court is in front of my house.’

These three examples are consistent with Saeed’s (2009) view that although, in general, ‘that’ and ‘those’ are ‘distal’ (away from speaker) deixis, in some languages it can be used to distinguish between ‘near addressee’ and ‘away from both speaker and addressee’. It includes ‘that’, ‘there’ and ‘then’.

Based on the distance, spatial or place deixis in Bimanse is divided into three types:

- a. Proximal (near the speaker)
Ake ‘this’ (proximal, near the speaker)
Ta ake ‘here’ (near the speaker).
- b. Medial or medieval (near the addressee)
ede ‘that’ (near the addressee)
ta ede ‘there’ (near the addressee).
- c. Distal (far from both).

aka ‘that’ (distal, far from both).

ta aka ‘(over) there’ (far from both).

Ta ake ‘here’ (near the speaker), **ta ede** ‘there’ (near the addressee) and **ta aka** ‘over there’ (far from both). In addition, **ta** indicates more exact or definite point. As reported, spatial deixis is simply divided into two ways of locating objects, proximal ‘here’ (proximal, close to the speaker) distal ‘there’ (distal, sometimes close to the addressee) (Levinson 1983, Lyons 1974, Cruse 2000, Simpson 1993). In Bimanese language, **ake** ‘this’ (proximal, near the speaker) vs. **ede** ‘that’ ‘medial or medieval’ (near the addressee) and **aka** ‘that’ ‘distal’ (far from both). ‘that’ functions as both medieval and distal spatial deixis. Regarding the breadth of category, Grundy (2000) adds that there are three degrees of proximity: here (proximal), there (distal), where (and the archaic hither, hence, thither, thence, wither, whence), left, right, up, down, above, below, in front, behind, come, go, bring, and take; but no ‘medieval’ deixis. This detailed uses and meanings make Bimanese language unique and different from those of other languages.

Examples:

- (4) **‘Ede’ Gili Terawangan.** <proximal>
 ‘That’ BE Gili Terawangan.
 ‘That is Gili Terawangan.’
- (5) **‘Aka’ Gili Meno.** <medial>
 ‘That’ BE Gili Meno.
 ‘That is Gili Meno.’
- (6) **‘Aka’ Gili Air.** <distal>
 ‘That’ BE Gili Air.
 ‘That is Gili Air.’

The use of either **ede** or **aka** derived from general spatial meaning of ‘that’ (as having proximal meaning) is flexible in Bimanese language. As Saeed (2013) points out, the use of **ede** and **aka** must be calculated by the participants in depends on the actual contexts.

- (7) **'Ipa'** **Gili Meno 'ede.'** <proximal>
'Across over' Gili Meno 'near there'
'Across Gili Meno.'
- (8) **'Ipa'** **Gili Air 'aka.'** <distal>
'Across' Gili Air 'far there.'
'Across Gili Air.'
- (9) **Gili Air 'ipa mai ʔa'** **Gili Meno.** <distal>
Gili Air BE 'across from' Gili Meno.
'Gili Air is 'across from' Gili Meno.'
- (10) **Lombok 'ipa mai ʔa'** **Gili Air.**
Lombok BE 'across from' Gili Air.
'Lombok is 'across from' Gili Air.'

Based on the degree of distance from the speaker, the order is **ipa ede** '(near) across, **ipa aka** '(far) across' and **ipa mai ʔa** 'across from'. These three variants of form in Bimanese language are only represented by the same core 'across'. So, Bimanese language shows more detailed, diverse representation of forms of spatial deixis. Again, these unique forms of Bimanese spatial deixis develop the existing theories formulated by Levinson (1983), Lyons (1974), Cruse (2000) and Simpson (1993) that so far spatial deixis is divided into two ways of locating objects, proximal 'here' (proximal, close to the speaker) distal 'there' (distal, sometimes close to the addressee).

- (11) **Uma nahu 'ese aka.'** <distal elevation> → elevational height.
House 1st POSS 'up there'.
'My house is 'up there'.'

A similar example of Wersing language (Schapper & Hendery 2014):

Sobo ba tona

House art HIGH

'The house is 'up there'.'

4.2 Absolute Location

Absolute references to place locate an object or person in a specific longitude and latitude (Cummings 2005). It describes the location of a place based on a fixed point on earth. (N, W, S, E). Bimanese has absolute lexemes or spatial deixis based on the actual orientation or reality (Cardinal points): *ele* 'east', *ḡi* 'west', *ḡo* 'south' and *ḡa* 'north', *ele mai ḡa* (east of), *ḡi mai ḡa* (west of), *ḡa mai ḡa* (north of) and *ḡo mai ḡa* (south of), *ele (mai) ede* 'on the east (there) (medieval distal)' and *ele aka* (distal). However, Bimanese language lack of 'diagonal' cardinal points of time used in the other languages, English, for example. In English, we have 'south-east', 'north-east', 'south-west', 'north-west.'

Examples:

(12) *Nipo* 'ḡa mai ḡa' *China*.

Japan BE 'nort of' China.

'Japan is on the 'north of' Tiongkok.'

(13) '*South-east*' Sulawesi province is rich of mining projects.

But no comparable form or term of 'south-east' in Bimanese language. So, Bimanese people directly transfer or absorb 'south-east' or *tenggara* (Indonesian lexicon) into Bimanese language. Regarding spatial deixis, this is the limitation of Bimanese language, no diagonal deixis in absolute location.

4.3 Location-direction structure

Location-direction structure implies parts of speech adverbs and verbs. The 'adverbs' is formed as 'location-direction structured' and 'verbs' is formulated as 'motion/movement-direction structure.' Location-direction structure includes 'topographic' and 'cardinal points.'

4.3.1 Topographic deixis: *ese-awa* ‘on-under’, *ese mai-awa mai* ‘above-under’, *ɟei-ari* ‘inside-outside’ and *ipa (ɟae)* ‘across’. As mentioned earlier, Bimanese language lacks ‘diagonal’ cardinal points as used in the other languages, English and Indonesian languages, such as ‘south-west’. Probably, that is why topographic deixis is commonly used in Bimanese language, even modified by the definite places or names. Due to the lack of diagonal deixis, Bimanese language speaker use *lao aka* ‘go (to) there’ by mentioning the name(s) of the places or objects. This is also found in Wersing language, such as ‘go towards the sea’ and ‘go towards the mountains’ (Schapper 2014).

Examples:

- (14) **La Hami ake wara ‘ese’ rasa nahu.**
Hamid now BE at village 1st POSS.
‘Hamid is now at my village.’ At is identical with ‘on’.
- (15) **Wara nggaro ni’u ‘ipa (ɟae) ɟa’ moti.**
There BE garden cocounut across over sea.
‘There is a cocounut graden across the sea’.

Based on topographic position *ari* ‘outside’ and *ɟei* ‘in’ or ‘inside’ mean ‘at’.

Examples:

- (16) **‘Ari’ Kolo wara sarae ɟura.**
Outside Kolo BE sand white.
‘There is white sand at Kolo’.
- (17) **‘ɟei’ (rasa) Tente aka mboto ɟawa.**
In Tente there much onion.
‘There is much onion at Tente (village)’.

Cardinal points (or fixed points on the earth): *ɟi-ele* ‘west-east’ and *ɟo- ɟa* ‘south-north’. Bimanese language does not have diagonal cardinal points, such as ‘south-east’.

The ‘topographic-cardinal point’ combination deixis is found in the following examples.

- (18) *Lao ese* Bima.
Go ‘up (high)(to)’ Bima.
‘Go to Bima.’

The speaker’s position is in Mataram Lombok island. However, Bimanese rarely, even never, say:

- (19) *Lao awa* Mataram.
Go ‘down (low)(to)’ Mataram. But,
Lao ḡi Mataram
Go ‘west’ Mataram.
‘Go to Mataram.’

This is a uniqueness of topographic deixis in Bimanese. Meanwhile, Mataram and Bima are, of course, relatively in the same ‘height’. Some related terms have been introduced, for example, “environmental space deixis” (Bickel 2001), “latitudinal case markers” (Ebert 2003) or “height” deixis (Dixon 2003) and “topographical deixis” (Post 2011).

4.4 ‘Motion/movement-direction structure’

The lexemes *ele* ‘east’, *ḡi* ‘west’, *ḡo* ‘south’ and *ḡa* ‘north’ as cardinal points deixis are frequently used with ‘adverbs’ of place (PL).

- (20) ***Nahu neʔe ‘lao’ ele Cakra.***
I want to go to east PL.
‘I want to go to (east) Cakra’.

- (21) ***Ori sia nggeʔe ‘ḡi’ Jakarta.***
Her uncle lives west PL.
‘Her uncle lives in (west) Jakarta’.

- (22) **Nami 'pou' mpara' pokumu 'go' amba.**
We have just come back 2nd POSS from (south) the PL.
'We have just come back from (south) the market'.

Note that some forms of 'Motion/movement-direction structure': **lao gi** 'go (to) west', **lao ese** 'go (to) upward' or 'go high', **lao awa** 'go (to) downward' or 'go low', etc.

An example of this comes from Wersing: in this, elevational motion verbs *-a* 'go.low' and *-mid* 'go.high' are often translated by speakers as 'go towards the sea' and 'go towards the mountains', called 'vertical elevation' (Burenhult 2008).

Elevation in a spatial deictic system is where a referent's location is identified as being at a certain elevation relative to the deictic centre as used in the Tibeto-Burman (Bickel 2001, Cheung 2007, Post 2011) and New Guinea (Senft 1997, 2004; Diessel 1999, Levinson 1983) Australia (e.g., Dyirbal: Dixon 1972: 48) and the Caucasus (e.g., East Caucasian languages: Schulze 2003). In the typological and descriptive literature, "topographical deixis" is also used (Post 2011).

Examples:

- (23) **'Mai ele (mai)**
Come east (from).
'Come from the east.'
- (24) **Lenga nahu na-wa?ura 'lao gi.'**
Friend 1st POSS 1st CLT-PERFECT go west.
'My friend has gone west'.
- (25) **Bune ai 'mai gi' maimu?**
When come (from) west CLITIC?
'When did you come (from the) west?'
- (26) **Cou 'mamai ele' maika?**
Who that PRESENT come (from) east that?
'Who is coming from (the) east?'
- (27) **'Talao gi' uma nahu**
Please go west house 1st POSS

'Please go to my house in the *west*'.

The meaning of 'causative marker' of motion deixis based on the 'object' and 'subject'.

4.4.1 Moving an 'object' from one location to another.

Examples:

(28) *Caele* 'Move to the 'east'.

(29) *Ca ġi* 'Move to the 'west'.

(30) *Ca ġo* 'Move to the 'south'.

(31) *Ca ġa* 'Move to the 'north'.

Note that *ca* 'to move'.

4.4.2 'Subject' moves from one place to another, often go with direction deixis.

Example:

(32) Archangeli *laona ese* Gunung Rinjani.
Archangeli *went to* 'high' Mount Rinjani.

But, in this setting, Bimanese people say:

(33) Archangeli *laona awa* Mataram. (from Mount Rinjani).
'Archangeli *went to* 'low' Mataram.

This is different from the earlier example 'Lao *ġi* Mataram' which is actually not the 'opposite' of

'Lao *ese* Bima.

Go to 'high' Bima.

'Go to Bima.'

Again, this is another uniqueness of the use of Bimanese spatial deixis.

5. Conclusions

The synthesis from the descriptions and discussions of the findings is as follows. On one hand, Bimanese language is constructed by some unique, forms and types of spatial deixis which are different from other languages. It has three types of spatial deixis: 'proximal', 'medial or medieval' and 'distal'. Although 'medieval deixis' was identified in another language, its forms and meanings are unequal. This is a uniqueness and identity of this indigenous language. In addition, so far, 'location-direction structure' and 'motion/movement-direction structure' are Bimanese-specific spatial deixis structure. On the other hand, 'diagonal' cardinal points, such as 'south-west', and the like, as commonly used in the other languages, for instance, English and Indonesian languages, are absent. Surprisingly, there is an imbalanced use of topographic deixis, e.g. non-synchronic 'opposite'. This is another uniqueness of Bimanese language.

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