

INFORMAL VOCABULARIES IN INDONESIAN

Kosakata Informal dalam Bahasa Indonesia

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Date received: 5 April 2022, approved: 10 October 2022, final revision: 28 October 2022

Abstrak

Penelitian ini berkenaan dengan kosakata informal bahasa Indonesia yang dibandingkan dengan ekuivalen bentuk formalnya dalam kaitannya dengan bentuk dan ciri-ciri semantiknya. Dengan menggunakan data yang dikumpulkan dari Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia, ditemukan bahwa di samping kosakata-kosakata yang secara khusus digunakan untuk ragam-ragam informal, terdapat juga bentuk-bentuk informal yang diubah dari imbuhan bentuk formalnya melalui berbagai proses fonologis, seperti penghilangan, penambahan, dan penyulihan. Sementara itu, berkaitan dengan ciri-ciri sosio-semantiknya, kosakata-kosakata informal dapat juga merupakan variasi asing, lokal, semantis, onomatope, dan slang dari pasangan-pasangan formalnya.

Kata kunci: kosakata, formal, informal, ragam.

Abstract

This research concerns about the Indonesian informal vocabularies compared to their formal equivalents regarding their forms and semantic characteristics. Using data collected from Indonesian Big Dictionary, it is found that in spite of vocabularies which are specifically used for serving informal speech styles, there are also ones that are modified from their formal counterparts through various phonological processes, such as deletion, addition, and substitution. Meanwhile, with regard to their socio-semantic characteristics, the informal vocabularies can be foreign, local, and polysemic (secondary meaning, onomatopoeic, and slangy) variation of their formal equivalents.

Keywords: vocabulary, formal, informal, style.

1. PRELIMINARY

Indonesian, either due to the large number of its speaker or the wide of its speaking area, has consequently various kinds of language variations. Two of which are formal and informal variation. If Joss (1962, 13) divides kinds of style exist in any language into frozen, formal, consultative, casual, and intimate, informal styles referred by this paper are casual and intimate style. That is style commonly used in non-formal occasions among people who are tied up with intimate personal relationship. In spite of spatial-temporal occasion, the socio-economic status and the regional origin of the interlocutor also play central role in the use of this vernacular style. Like any other style, the informal Indonesian style is also characterized by the

particularities in the use of phonological, morphological, syntactic, as well as lexical or vocabulary elements.

This paper intends to describe the formal and semantic characteristics of informal vocabularies in Indonesian. These issues are considered very important because many people, especially students are often unable to clearly distinct informal vocabularies with the formal ones. Wijana (2011, 93-95) uses (1) to (3) below as examples of misusing style of lexical units done by university students in Indonesian easy writing task:

(1) Ketimbang memelihara ternak, lebih baik menanam kelapa sawit karena hasilnya lebih besar.

Than raising livestock better growing palm oil because result the bigger.

Cultivating palm oil is better than raising livestock because the benefit is much bigger.'

- (2) Tindakan yang kebablasan demi mengejar pragmatisme, materialisme, dan hedonisme terjadi pada seluruh lapisan masyarakat dalam segala bentuk. Action that extreme for chasing pragmatism, materialism, and hedonism happen in all strata society in all form.

'The excessive acts for the sake of chasing pragmatism, materialism, and hedonism appear in all social strata in various forms.'

- (3) Banyaknya penebangan liarlah yang membikin kerusakan lingkungan. Many the logging wild that makes destruction environment.

'It was the massive illegal logging that made environmental destruction.'

The italic words *ketimbang* 'than', *kebablasan* 'extreme', *membikin* 'to make' used consecutively in (1) to (3) above are informal Indonesian vocabularies, and accordingly are inappropriate to use in formal discourses. These words in such modes of usage should better be replaced by *daripada* 'than', *keterlaluan* 'excessive', and *membuat* 'to make'. Compare (1), (2), (3) and (4), (5), and (6) below:

- (4) Daripada memelihara ternak, lebih baik menanam kelapa sawit karena hasilnya lebih besar.
- (5) Tindakan yang keterlaluan demi mengejar pragmatisme, materialisme, dan hedonisme terjadi di seluruh lapisan masyarakat dalam berbagai bentuk.
- (6) Banyaknya penebangan liarlah yang membuat kerusakan lingkungan.

Not just the university students that often make mistakes of choosing vocabularies, government or executive leaders are also unavoidable of doing so. The following (7) is a quotation of an Indonesian minister when he tried to explain his ongoing program "Kampus Merdeka, Merdeka Belajar" (*Free Campus and Free for Study*). In this quotation he

frequently uses informal Indonesian vocabulary:

- (7) Baik saya akan bilang, nama kebijakannya aja 3 semester di luar prodi, tolong kasi tahu ngapain kita membuat program.

Right, I will say, name policy the just three semesters in out prodi, help give know why we make program.

'Alright, I will say, just from the policy name 3 semesters out of the study program, let them know why we make a program.'

In that explanation, the minister at least utters 4 informal Indonesian vocabularies. Those are *bilang* 'to say', *aja* 'just', *kasi* 'give', and *ngapain* 'why'. These words have formal equivalents, *mengatakan*, *saja*, *memberi*, and *mengapa*. So, (7) should better be uttered as (8):

- (8) Baik, akan saya katakan, nama kebijakannya saja 3 semester di luar prodi, tolong diberi tahu mengapa kita membuat program.

Good will I say, name policy the just 3 semesters in out studi program, help to be inform why we make program.

'Alright, I will say, just from the policy name 3 semesters out of the study program, let them know why we make a program.'

Even though a lot of books and articles concerning how to use a proper Indonesian have been written or published, such as found in the works done by Singgih (1978), Wilarjo (1990), Wijana (2011), Djajasudarma (1999), Akhadiah et al. (2016), Wibowo (2020), none of them has described completely the formal and semantic characteristics of informal Indonesian vocabularies and comparing them to their formal equivalents which are commonly be found in formal styles. Sugono et al. (2007) only give a list of Indonesian vocabularies borrowed from various languages and compared with their standard equivalents without effort giving further explanation. As such, this research has its own importance mainly in recognizing the formal and semantic

characteristics of informal Indonesian vocabularies, and various failures which concerns about the choice of words, especially found in Indonesian essay compositions at least can be reduced or avoided. This condition is suggested by several researches concerning the quality of elementary students' formal Indonesian vocabulary mastery as result of vernacular Indonesian placed on Quizzizz media (Ningrum, 2022, 83-97). The same condition is also found by Privana et al. (2021, 22-24), and among university students by Mahfudoh & Ramdoningsih (2022, 563-569).

Indonesian which is formerly adopted from Malay as a national language through the Youth Pledge in 1928, and later as the official language through one article of the state constitution, presently is used by more than 200 million people as the native language all over the Archipelago (Anwar, 1980, 15-16). Nowadays, this language serves a lot of communicative functions. For this matter, the following national language policy should better be considered:

"Indonesian as a national language is the symbol of national unity, unifying means of various communities that have different linguistic, cultural, and ethnic background into Indonesian Society. In its status as state language, Indonesian is official language, the medium of instruction, national lingua franca for the purpose of planning and implementation of national development, and the instrument of cultural, scientific and technology development (Halim, 1980, 17)."

These facts bring a consequence that the existence of various styles in the use of Indonesian will certainly unavoidable. Those styles can be differentiated into multiple dimensions, social, regional, as well as situational. As far as situational dimension is concerned, Indonesian style at least can simply be distinguished into two kinds, formal style and informal style. Formal style is a style commonly used for conducting formal activities, such as delivering speech in formal occasions, such as speaking in formal meetings, seminars and conferences, delivering lectures, writing academic discourses, etc. Meanwhile, informal style is

one commonly used in less or informal occasions, such as bargaining in traditional markets, speaking to intimates, chatting, joking, writing informal letters, etc. Many experts (Ramlan et al, 1985: 10; Moeliono, 1977, 6; Kridalaksana, 1975, 15-18) have tried to describe the characteristics of Informal Indonesian style, and all of them state that among those characteristics, vocabulary peculiarities is one of them. However, they do not try to describe those vocabulary characteristics any further.

More recent studies on Indonesian colloquial style are carried out by several scholars. Wijana (2010) concerns about Indonesian slangy expressions. His research discussion includes forms, formation processes, origins, referents, and communicative functions. Sneddon (2001), based on the use of preposition *sama* 'with', considers the potentials of Jakarta Slang to be used as materials for teaching informal Indonesian. Poedjosoedarmo's study (2014. 1-6) focuses on the motive, function, and the effect of the vitality Indonesian local vernaculars in growing spirit of pluralism. All of these matters suggest the importance of investigation concerning the Indonesian vernacular vocabularies. In spite of forms and semantic issues, the use of informal vocabularies is also related with several factors, such as personal intimacy, regional origin, social and economic status of the speakers, etc. Therefore, there three important aspects that will become attention focus of this paper, i.e., various forms, sociolinguistic factors which influence their existence, and semantic characteristics of the informal Indonesian vocabularies. Finally, the term vocabulary in this paper is limited to basic lexical units, and accordingly excludes all linguistic forms consisting two or more morphemes. The informal words such as *duluan* 'earlier', *Agustus* 'celebrate 17th of August, Indonesia Independence Day', *ketinggian* 'too high', etc. are excluded because these matters have been profoundly discussed in Wijana (2021, 90-100).

2. RESEARCH METHOD

All data presented in this paper are

extracting result from Indonesian Big Dictionary (Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia) (Sugono, et al, 2014) through A to Z entry tracing in which the informal Indonesian vocabularies are marked by *cak* that stands for “percakapan (conversation)”. This marker is used as an indication that the entries are commonly used in informal conversations. These data are added with ones I gain through introspective method as an Indonesian native speaker. Using several dictionaries and through google tracing, the data are firstly marked based on their language origin whether they are from Indonesian words, regional languages, such as Javanese, Jakarta dialect, Sundanese, Ambonese dialect, etc. or foreign borrowings coming from English, Dutch, Arabic, Mandarin, etc. (see the list of Indonesian Informal Vocabularies in Alphabetical Order below). The data whose origin are unidentified are set aside from the list. The collected data are further classified whether the certain vocabularies belong to ones especially used in informal occasions, or ones modified from standard vocabularies through various sound modification processes, such as sound deletion, phonological change, metathesis, phonological lengthening, etc. Finally, the analysis is directed to find out the socio-semantic dimensions of the vocabulary items. These matters mostly concern with origin and componential meaning differences between the informal vocabulary items and their formal equivalents.

Indonesian Informal Vocabularies in Alphabetical Order

A

abis 'finished, after' (Indonesian)
 acak 'every, often' (Indonesian)
 ading 'younger sibling' (Indonesian)
 ajojing 'dancing' (Indonesian)
 aling-aling 'shelter' (Javanese)
 ama 'with' (Indonesian)
 ambreng-ambrengan 'spread everywhere' (Javanese)
 ambrol 'collapse' (Javanese)
 amit-amit 'God forbid' (Javanese)
 empat 'four' (Indonesian)
 amtenar 'civil servant' (Dutch)

ana 'I' (Arabic)
 anam 'six' (Indonesian)
 anteken 'registered' (Dutch)
 antem 'hit' (Javanese)
 angot 'recur' (Javanese)
 angel 'difficult' (Javanese)
 apkir 'is not used anymore' (Dutch)
 apus 'replacement' (Dutch)
 arek 'person' (East Javanese)
 arnal 'hair pin' (Dutch)
 asad 'lion' (Arabic)
 asese 'approved' (English)
 asprak 'informal agreement'
 astaga 'oh my God, forgive me' (Arabic)
 atawa 'or' (Indonesian)

B

bal 'bola' (Dutch)
 bankir 'financial backer' (English)
 banter 'hard, fast' (Javanese)
 banyol 'funny' (Javanese)
 bebel 'stupid, foolish' (Jakarta)
 bebi 'baby' (English)
 beceng 'short gun' (Jakarta)
 becus 'clever' (Jakarta)
 bedinde 'house maid' (Dutch)
 bedol 'address term for marriage registrar'
 begundal 'hoodlum' (Indonesian)
 beha 'bra' (Dutch)
 behandel 'work' (Dutch)
 bekakas 'equipment, tool' (Indonesian)
 beken 'famous' (Dutch)
 belek 'eye inflammation' (Javanese)
 beloon 'stupid' (Jakarta)
 bencong 'effeminate' (Indonesian)
 bengkelai 'to fight' (Indonesian)
 biar 'let, permit, so that' (Indonesian)
 bikin 'to make' (Indonesian)
 bin 'and' (Arabic)
 bis 'again' (Dutch)
 bobok 'sleep' (Javanese)
 bocor 'bleeding' (Indonesian)
 bogem 'fist' (Javanese)
 boksen 'boxing' (Dutch)
 bolong 'perforated' (Javanese)
 buat 'for' (Indonesian)
 bui 'jail' (Indonesian)
 bule 'white people especially who come from Europe and America' (Indonesian)
 buset 'soft swear word for expressing astonishment, bull shit' (English)

C

cabe 'chilly' (Javanese)
 cal 'shawl' (English)
 calui 'bribed person' (?)
 capek 'tired' (Indonesian)
 cas 'to charge' (English)

casciscus 'fluent' (Indonesian)
 ceceh 'penis' (Indonesian)
 cek 'address term for older sister' (Mandarin)
 ceklek 'sound imitation for camera shot' (Indonesian)
 celep 'to dip' (Indonesian)
 celetuk 'spontaneous response' (Jakarta)
 celopar 'fussy' (Jakarta)
 cempin 'champagne' (English)
 cengli 'logical' (Jakarta)
 cespleng 'effective' (Javanese)
 cewek 'girl' (Jakarta)
 cialat 'bad luck' (Indonesian)
 ciamik 'good' (Jakarta)
 cis 'light rifle' (Indonesian)
 congek 'deaf' (Javanese)
 contreng 'smear' (Jakarta)
 cowok 'boy' (Jakarta)
 coli 'masturbation' (Jakarta)

D

dabing 'dubbing' (English)
 dahar 'eat' (Javanese)
 dandan 'to make up' (Javanese)
 demen 'fond of' (Javanese)
 didong 'europe people' (Jakarta)
 dikit 'a little' (Indonesian)
 doang 'just, only' (Jakarta)
 dobel 'double' (Dutch)
 doi 'girl or boy friend' (Jakarta)
 dol 'loose' (Javanese)
 dompleng 'joint someone;
 dong 'exclamative word' (Indonesian)
 doping 'doping' (English)
 dopis 'dumpis' (Dutch)
 dum 'second hand' (Dutch)
 dus 'equipment for spraying bath water' (Dutch)

E

eco 'delicious' (Javanese)
 edan 'gila' (Javanese)
 anam 'six' (Indonesian)
 embek 'goat' (Indonesian)
 embik 'aunt' (Indonesian)
 emoh 'do not want' (Javanese)
 empot 'very hard' (Jakarta)
 ente 'you' (Arabic)
 entar 'short, just a moment' (Indonesian)
 erpah 'land leased for long term basis' (Dutch)

F

fulus 'money' (Arabic)

G

gadun 'play boy' (Jakarta)
 gaek 'very old person' (Jakarta)
 galan 'polite' (English)
 galbani 'galvanization' (English)

garan 'might it be' (Indonesian)
 gede 'big' (Javanese)
 geminte 'municipality' (Dutch)
 gim 'over, dead' (English)
 goblok 'stupid' (Javanese)
 gua 'I' (Jakarta)

H

heng 'hang, stuck' (English)
 hospital 'hospital' (English)

I

icak-icak 'pretend' (Indonesian)
 isu 'rumour' (English)

J

jahanam 'cursed' (Arabic)
 jeprat-jepret 'to snap repeatedly' (Indonesian)
 jebol 'pull up' (Javanese)
 jigong 'tooth dirt' (Javanese)

K

kadet 'pickpocket' (English)
 kamsen 'tip, commission money' (English)
 kangen 'longing' (Javanese)
 kans 'chance' (English)
 kasi 'give' (Indonesian)
 katering 'catering' (English)
 kaver 'cover' (English)
 kayak 'like' (Jakarta)
 kecantol 'get hooked' (Javanese)
 kecele 'feel cheated' (Jakarta)
 kecil 'small'
 keker 'binocular' (Dutch)
 kelir 'color' (Dutch)
 kelop 'matched' (Dutch)
 kenur 'big string' (Javanese)
 keok 'loose' (Javanese)
 kep 'crest, tuft' (Dutch)
 kepret 'spray' (Jakarta)
 kerdom 'swear' (Dutch)
 kere 'poor' (Javanese)
 kerkop 'european thomb' (Dutch)
 kerneli 'vannily' (Indonesian)
 keruan 'certain' (Javanese)
 kerun 'crown' (English)
 keseser 'loose' (Javanese)
 ketimbang 'than' (Javanese)
 kiblik 'republic' (English)
 kok 'why' (Javanese)
 kol 'estimate' (Dutch)
 kolaps 'collapse' (English)
 koman 'common' (English)
 komisi 'observing, inspecting' (English)
 komplain 'complain' (English)
 koreng 'sore, ulcer' (Javanese)
 kondangan 'be invited' (Jakarta)
 kontak 'electric connection'
 korner 'corner kick' (English)

kuak 'reveal' (Indonesian)
kupir 'cutter in tailor or dress shop' (Dutch)

L

lah 'emphatic interjection' (Indonesian)
lansam 'slow' (Dutch)
lat 'late' (Dutch)
lecek 'wrinkle' (Javanese)
lego 'to sell' (Indonesian)
lenci 'rabit' (Indonesian)
leo 'lion' (Latin)
leperi 'referee, umpire' (English)
level 'level' (English)
lever 'to deliver' (English)
lid 'association member'
lining 'vuring' (English)
loper 'deliverer' (Dutch)
lot 'draw' (Dutch)
lu 'you' (Jakarta)

M

mag 'maag' (Dutch)
mah 'emphatic particle' (Sundanese)
mairat 'disappear, go' (Arabic)
mam 'mother' (English)
mami 'mother, pimp' (Dutch)
manakan 'nephew' (Indonesian)
mang 'uncle' (Sundanese)
mending 'better' (Jakarta)
mantu 'holding wedding party'
masak 'how come' (Javanese)
masrum 'mushroom' (English)
mat 'tempo' (Dutch)
maut 'amazing' (Arabic)
mek 'friend' (English)
mekap 'make up' (English)
melulu 'only' (Jakarta)
memble 'pout' (Jakarta)
menampun 'asking for forgiveness' (Indonesian)
mendap 'move in crouching position' (Indonesian)
mengap 'gape' (Javanese)
mentul 'springy' (Javanese)
meraja 'great king' (Indonesian)
merem 'with closed eyes' (Javanese)
meres 'even, level' (Javanese)
merpau 'plural'
mes 'fertilizer'
mail 'mail' (English)
miliarwan 'miliarder' (Dutch)
mindring 'selling something through instalment'
minta-minta 'hopefully' (Indonesian)
mitasi 'imitation' (English)
molor 'sleep' (Jakarta)
montit 'plantation locomotive' (Dutch)
mudah 'easy to be persuaded' (Indonesian)
mudik 'went home to the village' (Indonesian)
muncrat 'sprayed' (Javanese)

N

nebeng 'to join' (Jakarta)
nenen 'to breastfed' (Indonesian)
ni 'this' (Indonesian)
nih 'this' (Indonesian)
nini 'grandma' (Javanese)
nomplik 'hit, unpredictably come' (Javanese)

O

oke 'okay' (English)
onshlah 'fired' (Dutch)
ofa 'grandpa' (Dutch)
oper 'to pass' (Dutch)
oren 'orange' (English)

P

pada 'done by many people' (Javanese)
pakai 'with' (Indonesian)
panen 'to reap a nice profit' (Indonesian)
pangpet 'stuck' (Javanese)
papa 'father' (Dutch)
pakat 'acclamation' (Indonesian)
pales 'fals' (English)
paradam 'damn' (Dutch)
pelang 'plank' (English)
peles 'jar' (Dutch)
pengin 'want' (Jakarta)
perai 'free' (Dutch)
perbal 'verbal process' (Dutch)
percis 'precise' (English)
persis 'precise' (English)
pere 'free' (English)
perlup 'engagement' (Dutch)
perlup 'loose' (Dutch)
pernikel 'coated with metal' (Dutch)
pica 'broken' (Indonesian)
pipis 'urine' (Indonesian)
planing 'planning' (English)
podemporem 'far yodoform' (Dutch)
poldan 'has been paid'
potlot 'pencil' (Dutch)
protokol 'protocol' (English)
puki 'woman's genital' (Maduranese)

R

rang 'people' (Indonesian)
raun 'going around' (English)
rehab 'rehabilitation' (English)
reken 'count' (Dutch)
rengkek 'whine' (Indonesian)
renyem 'desperate' (Jakarta)

S

salip 'over take' (Javanese)
sama 'with' (Indonesian)
sam-sak 'sand sack' (Dutch)
sam-sam 'the same to you' (Indonesian)

say 'darling' (Indonesian)
sekalor 'epilepsy' (Indonesian)
sekarat 'agony' (Arabic)
selaberak 'horse saddle base' (Dutch)
Selam 'Islam' (Arabic)
seling 'porcelain' (English)
selomot 'touch fire to' (Javanese)
selot 'key' (Dutch)
sembari 'while' (Indonesian)
sepada 'who is in' (Indonesian)
sepet 'astringent to the taste' (Javanese)
set 'strategy' (English)
setal 'horse barn' (Dutch)
setal 'steel' (Dutch)
setel 'pair' (Dutch)
setel 'turning' (Dutch)
setem 'sound harmonizing'
setiar 'effort' (Arabic)
setom 'steam' (Dutch)
setori 'chaotic'
setrat 'street' (Dutch)

T

tak 'no' (Indonesian)
tang 'about' (Indonesian)
tante 'aunt' (Dutch)
tartir 'little by little' (Arabic)
teken 'to sign' (Dutch)
tel 'successive number' (?)
terenen 'training' (English)
terup 'troop' (English)
tigari 'three days' (Indonesian)
tip 'tip' (English)
ton 'one thousand' (English)
torpedo 'ox testicles' (Dutch)
tos 'toss drawing' (English)
total 'to count' (English)
trusa 'no need' (Ambon)
tur 'tour' (English)

U

Uden 'student' (English) ulu 'up stream'
(Indonesian)
umbul-umbul 'scare crow' (Javanese)
uncu 'youngest' (Jakarta)
unda 'mother' (Indonesian)
unggal 'every' (Sundanese)
urus-urus 'to clean stomach' (Indonesian)

V

vak 'subject' (Dutch)
vlek 'spotted' (Dutch)

W

wong 'person' (Javanese)

Y

yahud 'remarkable' (Arabic)

setum 'steam' (Dutch)
sice 'furniture set' (Dutch)
sih 'emphatic particle' (Jakarta)
sif 'turn' (Dutch)
sikit 'little' (Indonesian)
singelar 'single player' (English)
singga 'until' (Indonesian)
singgel 'single' (English)
situ 'you' (Indonesian)
sobat 'friend' (Indonesian)
sombok 'tool for making louder'
sori 'sorry' (English)
sreg 'comfortable' (Javanese)
swak 'weak' (Indonesian)
suat-suit 'whistling sound coming from
everywhere' (Indonesian)
stori 'story' (English)
sugul 'sad' (Arabic)
studen 'student' (English)
syok 'shock' (English)

Z

zakelek 'literal, firm' (Dutch)

3. RESULT AND ANALYSIS

After having carefully observed all the gathered data, the followings are my research findings related to forms and semantic characteristics of informal Indonesian vocabularies.

3.1 FORMS OF INFORMAL INDONESIAN VOCABULARIES

With regard to the forms, the Indonesian vocabularies can be simply distinguished into two types, i.e. Informal vocabularies that have formal equivalents and informal vocabularies formed through various phonological processes. For more clearly, they will be discussed in the following sections.

3.1.1 INFORMAL VOCABULARIES WITH FORMAL EQUIVALENT

Many Indonesian words either that belong to common vocabularies or very formal ones have equivalent forms that for various kinds of reason, are only found their use in informal speech styles. For examples the Indonesian word for *berdansa* 'to dance', *amtenar* 'civil servant', *ana* 'I', *antem* 'hit', *bankir* 'financial backer', *banyol* 'funny',

bikin 'to make', *capek* 'tired', *bejibun* 'piling up a lot', *cewek* 'girl', etc. are only able to find in informal or colloquial speech. In formal occasion Indonesian speakers will use their formal counterparts. Consider the following comparisons (9) to (17) below:

- (9) *ajojing*><*berdansa* 'to dance'
- (10) *amtenar*><*pegawai negeri* 'civil servant'
- (11) *ana*><*saya* 'I'
- (12) *antem*><*pukul* 'hit'
- (13) *bankir*><*penyandang dana* 'financial backer'
- (14) *banyol*><*lucu* 'funny'
- (15) *bertumpuk*><*bejibun* 'piling up a lot'
- (16) *capek*><*lelah* 'tired'
- (17) *cewek*><*wanita* 'girl'

3.1.2 INFORMAL VOCABULARIES FORMED THROUGH VARIOUS PHONOLOGICAL PROCESSES

Informal vocabularies might also be formed through many kinds of phonological process, such as deletion, addition, substitution, and permutation whether they are part of naturalization process or ease of articulation one in order to serve the informal locutions. Many of these phonological processes occur simultaneously. However, to make ease of description, they are discussed separately in the following sections.

3.1.3 SOUND DELETION

Deletion process can involve one or more sounds as well as a syllable which mostly or nearly all distribute in initial positions. Consider the following examples (18) to (24):

- (18) *dikit*><*sedikit* 'a little'
- (19) *entar*><*seentar* 'just a moment'
- (20) *lenci* 'rabbit'><*kelinci* 'rabbit'
- (21) *abis*><*sehabis* 'after'
- (22) *abis*><*habis* 'sold out'
- (23) *manakan*><*kemenakan* 'nephew'
- (24) *ama*><*sama* 'with'

Initial syllabic deletions *se-* occurs in (18), *se(b)* in (19), *ke-* in (20), *se(h)-* in (21). Meanwhile single sound deletions /h/ happen in (22) and /s/ in (24). The processes can also occur together with phonological change, such as the

modification /i/ becoming /e/ in (20) and /a/ becoming /e/ in (23). Only a few cases show deletion processes that occur in middle and final positions such as shown in (25) and (27) below:

- (25) *menampun*><*minta ampun* 'asking for forgiveness'
- (26) *galvani*><*galvanization* 'galvanization'
- (27) *mendap*><*mengendap* 'move in crouching'

3.1.4 SOUND ADDITION

Most of sound addition processes relate with schwa /ə/ or middle vowel insertion that occurs between clusters or cluster like of foreign loan words which is due to the absence of clusters in Indonesian phonological system. Consider the changes of loan words (28) to (32) below becoming Indonesian informal vocabularies:

- (28) *pelang*><*plank* 'sign board'
- (29) *pere(i)*><*free* 'vacant'
- (30) *pales*><*fals*
- (31) *paradam*><*verdom* 'damn'
- (32) *persis, percis*><*precise*

From (28) to (32) above, the clusters or cluster like order being inserted are *pl*, *rd*, and *is*. There are only two examples so far which shows the additional process that occurs in final position. See (33) and (34) below in which the final diphthong of *atau* 'or' changes into semi vowel [w] before the final [a] is added, and the monosyllabic word *bi* 'aunty' from *bibi* 'aunt' is lengthened by adding *em-* and *-k*:

- (33) *atawa*><*atau* 'or'
- (34) *bi*><*embik* 'aunty'

3.1.5 SOUND SUBSTITUTION

Sound substitution which involves Indonesian words or ones borrowed from local languages in Indonesia commonly relate with deviation of one or several of their sounds to form informal vocabularies, such as shown in (35) to (38) below in which respectively /ə/ is substituted with /a/, / r/ with /ng/, and /p/ with /b/ :

- (35) *empat*><*empat* 'four'
- (36) *bengkelai*><*berkelahi* 'to fight'
- (37) *bekakas*><*perkakas* 'tools'
- (38) *anam*><*enam* 'six'

Meanwhile, informal Indonesian vocabularies borrowed from foreign

languages, such as English, Dutch, and Arabic change their sounds as result of naturalization processes. The borrowings are adjusting their sounds in accordance with Indonesian phonological system. Consider the adjustment of foreign words shown in (39) to (43) below:

- (39) cal><shawl 'scarf'
- (40) gim><game 'over'
- (41) galan><gallant 'polite'
- (42) kolap><collapse 'fall'
- (43) masrum><mushroom

In this phonological adjustment processes, there are also spelling adjustment ones, such as found in (44) to (49) below:

- (44) cempine><champagne
- (45) dabing><dubbing
- (46) mekap><make up
- (47) asese><acc 'accepted'
- (48) oke><okay
- (49) kamsen><commission 'tip, commission money'

In very rare cases, the sound change constitute dissimilation process, such as seen in (50) below in which /r/ changes becoming /l/:

- (50) leperi><referee 'umpire'

It is also possible that the substitution process is followed by addition one, such as the change of *Islam* 'islam' to become *Slam*, and then becoming *Selam* in (51) below:

- (51) Islam>Slam>Selam 'Islam'

So far there is no sound and syllabic permutation process involved in the informal vocabulary formation.

3.2 SOCIO-SEMANTIC CHARACTERISTICS OF INFORMAL VOCABULARIES

With regards to formal and informal vocabularies, its equivalence is involving one kind of semantic relation, i.e., Synonymy. However, there are several semantic characteristics that hold between those formal and informal variations. These semantic characteristics will be described in the following sections.

3.2.1 COLLOQUIAL VERSUS FORMAL VARIATION

Among Indonesian indigenous vocabulary items there are words specifically used in

informal styles. They have equivalents which function to serve communicative needs in formal occasions. For example, *membuat* 'to make' and *membikin*, *dapat* 'can' and *bisa*, *lelaki* 'boy' and *cowok*, *wanita* 'girl' and *cewek*, *pandai* 'clever' and *pintar* or *becus*, etc. Indonesian colloquial words which undergo various phonological changes have been mentioned above also belong to this type. For more other examples are (52) to (56) below:

- (52) abis><habis 'finished, after'
- (53) acak><acap 'every, often'
- (54) ading><'younger sibling'
- (55) dikit><sedikit 'a little'
- (56) entar><sebenjar 'just a moment'

3.2.2 FOREIGN VERSUS INDIGENOUS VARIATION

Without denying that a lot of foreign borrowings coming from Dutch, English, and Arabic are borrowed for meeting the needs of formal expressions, many of them are also adopted to serve the necessities of informal ones. Consider (57) to (70) below:

- (57) amtenar><pegawai negeri 'civil servant'
- (58) apkir><tidak dipakai 'is not used anymore'
- (59) aplus><ganti 'replacement'
- (60) bedinde><pembantu 'house maid'
- (61) boksen><tinju 'boxing'
- (62) reken><hitung 'count'
- (63) bebi><bayi 'baby'
- (64) dabing><sulih suara 'dubbing'
- (65) gim><game 'over'
- (66) hospital><rumah sakit 'hospital'
- (67) kans><kesempatan 'chance'
- (68) koman><biasa 'common'
- (69) komplain><mengeluh 'complain'
- (70) corner><tendangan penjuru 'corner kick'

Examples (57) to (62) are Dutch borrowings, ones (63) to (70) are borrowed from English, and ones (71) to (76) below are Arabic origins.

- (71) ana><saya 'I'
- (72) ente><kamu 'you'
- (73) bin><dan 'and'
- (74) asad><singa 'lion'
- (75) astaga><ampun Tuhan 'oh my God, forgive me'
- (76) fulus><uang 'money'

Dutch borrowings are caused by historical factors of the nation had been invaded for more than three centuries, English vocabularies are needed for technology and science development, and Arabic is source language for fulfilling needs in religion field for Islam as the religion of the majorities in Indonesia. Nowadays Dutch borrowings are lesser and lesser in number, but English and Arabic are increase significantly day by day. And, consequently, study of these two foreign languages, either their existence as standard or vernacular variations are growing dramatically, and getting more and more interesting.

3.2.3 LOCAL VERSUS INDIGENOUS VARIATION

It is estimated that there are about four hundreds of local languages spread over the archipelago. However, not all of those local languages give a significant number of borrowings to the Indonesian vocabulary inventory. As far as the local languages' borrowings are concerned, there are only several local languages which are considerably significant in exerting their influence to the Indonesian vocabulary. Those are Javanese, Jakarta dialect, and Sundanese. The influence of other local languages' vocabulary is considered rare. The following (77) to (84) are examples of Javanese loan words commonly found in colloquial styles:

- (77) aling-aling><penghalang
 - (78) angot><kambuh 'recur'
 - (79) ambreng-ambrengan><tersebar ke mana-mana 'spread everywhere'
 - (80) ambrol><jebol 'collapse'
 - (81) banter><keras, cepat 'hard, fast'
 - (82) belek><radang mata 'eye inflammation'
 - (83) cespleng><manjur 'effective'
 - (84) bolong><berlubang 'perforated'
- Meanwhile, the examples of Jakarta dialect informal borrowings can be seen in (85) to (91) below:
- (85) bejibun><bertumpuk, berkumpul 'piling up a lot'
 - (86) doang><hanya 'just, only'
 - (87) celetuk><jawaban spontan 'spontaneous response'
 - (88) beloon><bodoh 'stupid'

- (89) kepret><semprot 'spray'
 - (90) lu><kamu 'you'
 - (91) kaya><seperti 'like'
- Finally, the Sundanese examples for Indonesian informal vocabularies are (92) to (94) below:
- (92) renyem><kacau 'desperate'
 - (93) mah><bukankah 'emphatic particle'
 - (94) mang><paman 'uncle'

3.2.4 POLYSEMIC VARIATION

The informal vocabularies may also appear because semantic development of words whether they are loan or indigenous words. With regard to this matter, not all informal variations relate with the primary meanings. Some time they do with secondary meanings. For examples the word informal Indonesian *isu* borrowed from English *issue* does not relate with its primary meanings 'problem, matters, etc.' but with its secondary meaning 'rumour'. The word *kadet* which is an English borrowing *cadet* 'midmanship' becoming an informal vocabulary after getting a new meaning 'pickpocket'. The first meaning is still considered a formal lexicon. The word *gim* which is originally an English word *game* 'play' is becoming colloquial after it means 'over or dead'. The word *gim* is expressed by the card player at the same time as he finishes their last card to win the game. The word *raun* is also an English borrowing *round*. Its first or primary meaning 'round' is expressed by its Indonesian formal equivalent *bulat* or *bundar* which both mean 'round'. This word in the later development becomes *raun* which informally means 'going around'. For more clearly see (95) to (99) below:

- (95) isu><masalah 'rumour'
- (96) kadet><cadet 'pickpocket'
- (97) gim><permainan 'finish, over'
- (98) raun><berkeliling 'going around'
- (99) mudah 'easy to persuade'><mudah 'easy'

The same thing happens on Indonesian vocabularies. The word *pakai* whose primary meaning 'use' belongs to formal style, but its polysemic sense 'with', such as found in *mi pakai telur* 'noodle with egg', *kopi pakai susu* 'coffee with milk', etc. belongs to informal vocabulary item. The

word *congek* which means 'running ear' is formal, but its polysemic equivalent meaning 'deaf' is informal in character. Kata *embek* and *keok* that both refer to 'onomatopoeic sound' or sound imitation of goat and chicken are formal, but when they are used to mean the animal itself and its association sound produced when the animal (rooster) does not dare to fight its enemy, are informal. *Mudah* which means 'easy' is formal vocabulary but its polysemic variation that means 'easy to persuade' is used in informal occasion. The word *sama* 'the same' is informal but its polysemic equivalents that is used to mean 'with' like *Saya suka sama dia* 'I like him' is informal. In this matter *sama* has the same meaning with *dengan* 'with'. *Saya suka sama dia* have the sama information with *saya suka dengan dia* 'I love him'. Finally, the informal vocabularies are possibly slangy variations of their formal counterparts, such as *sama-sama* 'you too' and *sam-sam* 'the same to you', *sayang* 'darling' and its shorter form *say*.

4. CONCLUSION

From what have been described above, there are several conclusions can be drawn concerning about the forms and socio-semantic characteristics of Indonesian informal vocabularies. In spite of vocabularies which are truly intended to serve informal necessities, there are also many ones that are created by the Indonesian speakers through various kinds of phonological process, such as sound deletion, sound substitution, and sound additions. Among these processes, sound deletion is considered the most dominant. This phenomenon is easy to understand because informal forms tend to appear for meeting the need of articulation ease. With regard to their socio-semantic characteristics, beside constituting informal variations of the standard forms, informal vocabulary can also be foreign and local, regional, and polysemic variations of the indigenous forms. As far as polysemic variations are concerned, the informal vocabularies can be the onomatopoeic or slangy variations of their formal equivalents.

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