THE DIVERSIFICATION OF THE SASAK LANGUAGE DIALECTS

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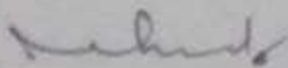
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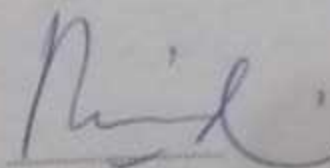
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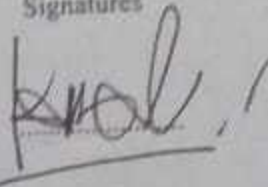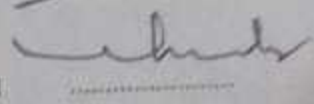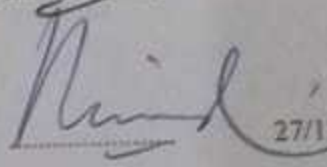English Graduate Department
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THE DIVERSIFICATION OF
THE SASAK LANGUAGE DIALECTS

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Abstract

The Sasak language is originally spoken by Sasak people in Lombok island. It has been identified to have five dialects. They are Kuto-kute dialect called Bayan dialect (BD), Ngeto-ngete dialect called Sembalun dialect (SD), Ngeno-ngene dialect called Selaparang dialect (SID), Meno-mene dialect called Pejanggik dialect (PD), and Meriak-meriku dialect called Pujut dialect (PjD). This research is aimed at identifying and establishing how the Sasak language dialects are diversified from its mother language. The answer is then used to understand and establish the way Sasak language speakers migrated around the island. The method used is comparative synchronic method. Data are about 800 words including 200 basic words from Swadesh, cultural words, body parts, numbers, etc. which are collected through interview and library research. The collected data are analyzed comparatively to see the relation among the dialects as the basis of grouping and ungrouping. Result of the analysis shows that Sasak language dialects are diversified through internal subgrouping model (internal structure model), the second model of Tree Model Theory. There are three internal subgroups (nodes) generating the five Sasak language dialects. The first node is protoBayan-Sembalun (PBS) that diversifies Bayan Dialect (BD) and Sembalun Dialect (SD) and second node is protoSelaparang-Pejanggik-Pujut (PSPP) that diversifies Selaparang Dialect (SID) and protoPejanggik-Pujut (PPP). ProtoPejanggik-Pujut (PPP) is the third node that deversifies Pejanggik Dialect (PD) and Pujut Dialect (PjD). As language evolution and human migration are believed to have a very strong link, the model of the diversification of the Sasak language dialects is therefore reflects the way Sasak language speakers migrated from their first settlement around Bayan-Sembalun dialects area to other places around Sembalun and then moved to protoSelaparang-Pejanggik-Pujut dialect area and finally spread up into Selaparang dialect, Pejanggik dialect, and Pujut dialect area. Vertical analysis between the Sasak language dialects and protoAustronesian language plus horizontally with Samawa language, in case of lexical-phonological features, is in the line with the result of this research. Meaning, that these vertical and horizontal comparisons support and strengthen the findings.

Key words: Sasak, language, dialect, comparative, model, diversification, vocabulary migration, and speakers, flat model, internal subgrouping model

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