



Vocal and Consonant PAN Features in Nias and Sigulai Languages



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Abstract

This paper aims at describing the features of vowels and PAN consonants in Nias and Sigulai languages, as well as their comparison bit of Devayan Language. The three languages were used as objects for comparing between Nias and Sigulai language that was spoken in two different islands mastering enough similarity compared Sigulai Language with Devayan Language although both (Sigulai and Devayan Language) performed on the same island, i.e. Simeulue Island. Based on the analysis, it can be concluded that the vowels and PAN consonants degrade many forms and in different ways in derivatives language, i.e. languages of Nias, Sigulai, and Devayan. Nias language and Sigulai language shows fairly closely than in the Devayan Language. That was the consonants features of the Austronesian language and vowels can evidence its existence in Nias language and Sigulai language. The qualitative evidence that could be concluded from the above comparison was: (1) the sound was inherited linearly *i is a vowel and * u * l * g consonant. (2) The sound experience is fading *s/*S, *c, *y, *k, *q, and *h; (3) sound inherited linearly once-fading and change was * e> ə, o, and u; * A> a, o; * P> f, b; * B> f, w / v; * M> m, Ø; * > W, b; * T> t, d; * D> d, l, n; * N> g, k; * R / * R> r, l, Ø; * N> ŋ, n; * Z> j, l; and * ŋ> ŋ, Ø. The changes were varied in point three took place on the third syllable and a different position. All types of changing, it turned out all the lexicons PAN closed syllable, experiencing consonant deletion at any syllable in Nias language and particularly Sigulai language.

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1. Introduction

The languages in the small islands for some literature mentioned as a language i.e. open syllable (see [Catford 1988](#), [Crowley 2010](#)). It can be seen e.g. in the languages included Fiji, Hawaii, Tongan, Samoan, Raratongan,

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and Nias. E.g. *tansik > taði (Fiji), kai (Hawaii), tahi (Tongan), tai (Samoan), tai (Raratongan), nasi (Nias). On Nias Language, the open syllable pattern was found in the whole lexicon. Even Indonesia lexicon which closed syllable (K) VK) was spoken by the open syllable ((K) V), e.g. Telukdalam (the name of a district in Nias) spoken by native speakers with [təludala], sabtu [satu], tinggal [tiga].

Regarding above phenomenon, it turns out that language system of open syllable was found as well as in Sigulai Language on the Simeulue Island. Unlike it is known, Simeulue Island is part of the Nanggroe Aceh Darussalam (NAD) Province that is located about 150 km from the west coast of Aceh and Sinabang capital. However, the language was spoken not similar to Aceh language (see also the results of research by Tim Balai Bahasa Banda Aceh 2012, *Inilah bahasa-bahasa di Aceh*). Their results mention that there are two languages in Simeulue Island i.e. Devayan and Sigulai Language. Devayan Language formerly called Simalar language (Esser in Kridalaksana 2008), whereas, Sigulai/Lamamek Language is called Sichule. The local society said that on the island more than two languages are spoken, included Leukon and Jamu languages. The latter is similar to Jamek language that spoken in Tapak Tuan NAD.

The lexicon with open syllables found in Bahasa Sigulai (BS) has similarities with Bahasa Nias (BN), although it is also found a lexicon with closed syllables in the language. When it is viewed in geography side, Nias and Simeulue Island are two islands quite far away, even though they were in the west of Sumatra. Some of the vocabulary is similar, e.g. *tansik > nahi dalam BS; *asu > nasu (BN) dan nahu (BS); *puta > futa (BN) dan butan (BS); *takut > ata'u (BN) dan ataot (BS). Ataot lexicon is also known in Devayan Language on Simeulue Island. Widayati (2016) stated that 200 Swadesh vocabulary list, has found 117 lexicons of BS (59%) similar to the BN (papers was presented at the International Congress MLI 24 to 27 August 2016 in Bali). The percentage amount into a hypothesis for researchers that BS is part of BN. The resemblance of the languages needs further study on the migration of ethnic Nias to Simeulue island or indeed BS inherited traits syllable languages of small islands as disclosed above.

Historically the Nias people has been migrated to the Simeulue island. They got the land from the king of the island. The land that they acquired was named Salang, which means in Malay 'borrow'. Salang and Sigulai languages used by the Salang society contain many elements of BN (see C.M. Kan and Posthumus, 1881 and Beekman et al, 1917). Salang language is no longer known today, however, BS better was known. However, a lexicon Salang, now the name of a sub-district in the Nasreuhe capital of Simeulue Island.

In this paper, the researchers just take words unlike both (Nias and Sigulai) to describe how the features vowels and consonants PAN in Nias and Sigulai languages. Furthermore, it is also paired with Bahasa Devayan (BD), which are also found on the Simeulue Island. The goal is to observe a similar form with the three languages PAN and strengthen proximity BS with BN. For noting, described Nias language lexicon is not distinguished whether South Nias or North Nias dialects.

2. Research Method

In order to analyze how the vowels and consonants PAN feature in BN and BS used a method of diachronic comparison or comparative historical. The lexicon that related hypothesized to originate from the same proto-language. The similarity of form and meaning contained in the words of relatives is not accidental or a loan, however, due to continuing characteristics proto-language of semantic primes. Grimm and Verner Law used as a basis for analyzing the regularity of the sounds of language are related. This regularity among others can be evidenced from the reflexes their proto-language in their derivatives language. The sound Reflex of Protolanguage is analyzed on each syllable and its position. Thus, it would seem proto-language features belongs intentionally or innovation.

3. Results and Analysis

3.1 Vocal PAN features in Nias and Sigulai language

a) PAN Features * i

In ultima syllables, * i still appear as / i / in BN and BS. Likewise on the penultimate syllable words disyllabic.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*ipən	nifə	nifə	ehen	Tooth/gigi
*iluŷ	ilo	ilo	cilol	Saliva/ludah
*inum	minu	(maŋ)inu	(maŋ)inom	Drink/minum

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*hijun	nixu	nixu	ihonj	Nose/hidung
*aŋin	naŋi	naŋi	aŋin	Wind/angin
*waRih	hari	hari	balal	Day/hari

Based on the above data it appears that BS is more alike to BN than BD. The evidence shows that the lexicon of BD, especially, in the lexicon *balal* and *ehen* derived from different *etimon*.

b) Features PAN *u

In the ultima syllables, *u still appear as /u/ in BN and BS. Likewise on the penultimate syllable words disyllabic.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*bunuh	bunu	bunu	bunuh	Kill/bunuh
*buŋa	buŋa	buŋa	buŋo	Flower/bunga
*manuk	manu	manu-manu	manok-manok	Bird/burung
*buluŋ	bulu	bulu	buluŋ	Leaf/daun
*buSuk	obou	obou	afuruk	Bad smell/busuk

In BN, the lexicon */manu/* has undergone a shift in meaning to 'ayam/chicken'. For the meaning of 'burung/bird' Nias societies use the lexicon */fofo/*. In the lexicon *buSuk > *obou*, occur a deletion process of *S* and lengthening the vowel /u/, one of them turned into /o/, and then adding a vowel at the initial position.

c) PAN Features *e

PAN *e inherit two distinct features in the BN and BS, the feature [+ front, + middle] and the [+ rear, + middle] the ultima and penultimate syllables in BN and BS.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*empat	əfa	əfa	ampek	Four/empat
*ipen	nifə	nifə	ehen	Tooth/gigi
*telu	təlu	təlu	təlufo	Three/tiga
*beRŋin	boŋi	axemi	bəŋi	Night/malam
*keRiŋ	okəli	kəreŋ	kəriŋ	Dry/kering
*nahe	ahe	gae	kae	Foot/kaki
*hitem	aitə	aifə	mətəm	Black/hitam
*beRey	(ma)me'e	(ma)fe'e	(maŋ)eba	Giver/beri
*beRat	abua	abua	aforat	Heavy/berat

In the lexicon *beRŋin, vocal *e experience an innovation becomes /o/, /ə/ [+belakang, + middle] in BN and BS. The meaning of 'berat/heavy' in three languages than the above experience two different forms of innovation. On the BN and BS innovation happens is *R dan *t vanished followed by the strengthening of the vocals being *e > high vocal /u/ in the syllable penultimate and pro-tesis /a/, while *beRat > *aforat* in BD, besides getting pro-tesis /a/, also occur an innovation *b > f and *e > o.

d) PAN Features *a

PAN *a passing linearly /a/ and also innovative /o/ on the ultima and penultimate syllables of BN and BS.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*abu	nawu	navu	abu	Dust/abu
*asu	asu	nahu	asu	Dog/anjing
*anak	ono	nono	anak	Child/anak
*daRah	do	do	dalah	Blood/darah
*tanah	tanə	danə	lanca	Land/tanah
*taŋan	daŋa	daŋa	kaok	Hand/tangan

In the above table looks inheritance PAN *a linear of *abu, *asu, dan *tajan, whereas inherited innovatively /o/ showing at the *anak, *daRah, dan *tanah. Regarding *anak, *a in the penultimate syllable turned into /o/ followed the sounds harmonization in the ultima syllables > ono. * Likewise with *daRah, the consonant *R experience syncope and followed shortening of the long vowel /a:/ and then changed to /o/ towards *tanah only occurred a change of *a in the ultima syllable > ə.

e) PAN Diphthong Features *uy, *ey, *ay

Diphthong *uy, *ey, and *ay in PAN turned into monophthongs in BN and BS, i.e. *uy > i (BN, BS); *ey dan *ay > e (BN, BS), however, not in BD. In BD *uy> remain as a diphthong vowel /u/ [+ high] innovative features become a feature /o/ [+ middle].

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*apuy	alitə	naitə	ahoy	Fire/api
*lanuy	molanji	lumalanji	malaŋoy	Swim/berenang
*beRey	(ma)me'e	(ma)fe'e	(maŋ)əba	Give/beri
*qatey	gate	ede	ate	Care/hati
*matay	mate	mate	matay	Dead/mati

However, the glossary 'api' BN and BS does not inherit from *apuy, however, on the other *etimon* (presumably *pelita). Only BD which still retains its characteristic of their diphthong of innovative changes *p > h.

3.2 Some consonants PAN features in the Bahasa Nias (BN) and Bahasa Sigulai (BS)

a) Bilabial consonant features

[1] Consonants PAN features *p

PAN * p bequeath innovative /f/ in BN; /f/ and /b/ in the BS in the initial and medial position. That is, BN and BS experience innovation together than BD still inherit *p linearly.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*puta	futa	butan	putar	Turn/belok
*empat	əfa	əfa	ampek	Four/empat

The other evidence that proves innovation jointly between BN and BS is found the lexicon *lapaR > olofo (BN, BS), *lipan > alifa (BN) dan galifa (BS).

[2] Consonants PAN features *b

PAN * b bequeath linearly in the BN, especially in the initial position also includes BD. However, in the initial position BS *b> f. In the middle position *b in BN experience innovation > w, as well as in BS *b> w/v.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*baru	baru	baru	baro	New/baru
*batu	batu	batu	batu	Stone/Batu
*berat	abua	aforat	abua	Heavy/berat
*bunuh	bunu	fabunu	bunuh	Kill/bunuh
*bulan	bawa	bawa	bawa	Moon/bulan
*abu	nawu	navu	abu	Dust/abu
*babah	bawa	bakba	bafa	Mouth/mulut
*bəbak	uli	bebek	bebek	Skin/kulit

[3] Consonants PAN features *m

Consonant PAN *m in the initial position to be inheritance linearly in BN, BS, as well as BD especially, at the beginning of each syllable. However, on every closed syllable *m experiencing fading > Ø in BN and

BS. This deletion does not occur on the BD. That is, BN and BS experience innovation together compared to BD.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*manuk	manu	manu-manu	manok-manok	Bird/Burung
*maŋa	maŋa	maŋa	maŋan	Eat/Makan
*empat	əfa	əfa	ampek	Four/Empat
*lima	lima	lima	limo	Five/Lima
*hitem	aitə	aifə	mətəm	Black/Hitam
*inum	minu	(maŋ)inu	(maŋ)inom	Drink/Minum

[4] Consonants PAN features *w

The features of consonants PAN *w cleaved into /w/ and /b/ in BN. Despite the split, the feature [+ bilabial] still persist in their derivatives language, i.e. BN. Features *w last seen in the lexicon *sawah, while others experience an innovation lexicon, either change or deletion. Clearly, observe the following table.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*wakaR	wa'a	lali	ollor	Root/akar
*waRih	hari	hari	balal	Day/hari
*awolo	ebolo	ebolo	afələle	Wide/lebar
*sawah	sawa	awa	sawa	Snake/ular

b) Alveolar consonants features

[1] Consonants PAN features *t

The features of consonant PAN *t retaining the features [+ alveolar] itself. Only the feature [-voice]> [+ voice]. As well, a common characteristic of BN that is always deletion a consonant in the ultima closed syllable. Lodging in lexicon *tamata, BN does not inherit the etimon. The linear and innovative inheritance is seen in the table below.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*takut	ata'u	ataot	ataot	Afraid/takut
*tanah	tanə	danə	lanca	Land/tanah
*tajan	daŋa	daŋa	kaok	Hand/tangan
*tamata	niha	nata	Ata	People/orang
*tata	ahatə	atə	akən	Near/dekat
*puta	futa	butan	putar	Around/putar
*qatey	gate	ede	Ate	Care/hati
*empat	əfa	əfa	ampek	Four/empat
*berat	abua	abua	aforat	Heavy/berat

[2] Consonants PAN features *d

The consonant PAN *d lowering the three variations in the BN, that is /d/ ~ /t/ ~ /l/, BS as well as there are three variations, i.e. /d/ ~ /l/ ~ and /n/. Although derived consonant is different, the basic features of PAN *d is still maintained, the feature [+ alveolar]. While in BD there are only two variations i.e. /d/ and /r/. The details can be seen in the following table.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*duwa	duwa	domba	dufo	Two/dua
*dauh	arəu	adəu	arao	Far/jauh
*dilah	lela	lela	dilah	Tongue/lidah
*dada	dədə	nalə	dado	Chest/dada

[3] Consonants PAN features *n

The features [+ alveolar, + nasal] PAN *n bequeath linearly and innovative in BN and BS, as well as BD. The innovative feature has been seen on the lexicon *nahe > *gae* and *kae*. The features [+ alveolar, + nasal] turned into > feature [+ velar, + stop]. It is illustrated in the following sample data.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*angin	naŋi	naŋi	aŋin	Wind/angin
*anak	ono	nono	anak	Child/anak
*manuk	manu	manu-manu	manok-manok	Bird/burung
*nahe	gahe	gae	kae	Foot/kaki
*ina	ina	mak	əmmak	Mother/ibu

Regarding BN PAN *ina to be inheritance linearly, whereas, BS and BD lexicons *mak* and *əmmak* derived from different etimon, instead of *ina.

[4] Consonants PAN features *s/S

The features PAN *s/*S [+ alveolar, fricative +] passing linearly especially in initial and medial position, however, experience a deletion in the final position in BN.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*asa	sara	amba	sao	One/satu
*tipis	nifi	nifi	manehe?	Thin/tipis
*basaq	abasə	abaə	afasə	Wet/basah
*asep	sibo	imbo	təbəl	Fog/asap
*asu	asu	nahu	asu	Dog/anjing
*buSuk	obou	obou	afuruk	Bad smell/busuk

The lexicon *amba* in BS derived from *asa + buah > *sabuah*. This lexicon consists of in BN unlike *Sambua* 'sebuah'. In BS, PAN *asa + *buah experience a change > sa + bua > sabua > infixes m > Sambua (BN) and > amba (BS). On * sambua, *s > Ø and followed diphthongs ua > a, so that the lexicon was lowered to *amba*. Moreover, the interesting is the lexicon *asu* turns down of verbs 'berburu/hunting', i.e. *mameasu* (BN), *mameahu* (BS) and *mangasu* (BD).

[5] Consonants PAN features *l

Basically, PAN *l to be inheritance linearly in BN, BS, and BD. However, the deletion that is sporadic may occur, e.g. *lebu > *ebua* and *eba* in BN and BS.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*tali	tali	dali	tali	Rope/tali
*lebu	ebua	eba	aləfo	Big/besar
*lima	lima	lima	limo	Five/lima
*buluŋ	bulu	bulu	buluŋ	Leaf/daun
*laŋuy	(mo)laŋi	(luma)laŋi	(luma)laŋoy	Swim/berenang
*sawah	sawa	awa	sawa	Rice Field/sawah
*ular	ulə	--	--	Snake/ular

Unlike the previous explanation, glossed *ular/snakes* descended from PAN *sawah on BN, BS, and BD. Likewise, in BN recognize more than one etimon for glosses 'ular'. Besides *sawa*, BN as well as know a lexicon *ulə* derived from <*ular.

[6] Consonants PAN features *r/R

The consonant PAN *r and *R lowering the same voice that is / r /, / l / and Ø well in the initial position, medial or final on BN and BS. It can be seen details in the following sample data.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*daRah	do	do	dalah	Blood/darah
*beRey	(ma)me'e	(ma)fe'e	maṅəba	Give/beri
*wakaR	wa'a	lali	ollor	Root/akar
*baru	baru	baru	baro	New/baru
*aliR	(ma)ele	ahani	(ma)aler	Flow/alir
*roŋo	roŋo	Loŋo	(ma)engal	Ear/dengar
*sira	asio	Naiya	asila	Salt/garam
*niRu	niru	Nilu	aliŋka	Imitate/nyiru

c) Consonants palatal features *ɲ, *c, *z, and *y

The consonants palatal features *ɲ, *c, *z, dan *y of the collected data is quite rare. The consonant PAN *ɲ down two sounds, i.e. /ɲ/ and /n/ in the initial and medial position. Although, the both different remain inherits mastering the same features of [+nasal] for instance:

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*ɲani	ɲani	ɲani	ɲani	Sing/nyanyi
*niRu	niru	nilu	aliŋka	Imitate/nyiru

The features of consonants PAN *c rarely found from the data. It merely one example which can be analyzed that *c experiencing fading in BN, BS, and BD, i.e.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*cium	uma	Umma	maŋiŋke	Kiss/cium

Unlike in term of consonant PAN other inheritance, *Z also experienced innovation in the language of the revelation, i.e. *Z > j, l irregular. *Lala* lexicon can be derived from the proto lexicon **dalan*. This term still requires further research.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*qiZau	hijo/owuge'e	Ijo	hijau	Green/hijau
*Zalan/*dalan	lala	Lala	dalan	Walk/jalan

The consonant PAN *y as well as experience a deletion. In the lexicon below, in addition, *y vanished, there is also the process of metathesis towards BS.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*tiyup	mo(tiu)	ma(ipu)	(ma)iop	Blow/meniup

d) Consonant velar features

[1] Consonants PAN feature *k

PAN consonant *k among in initial position, medial, and final encounter fading in BN, however, it is not in BS and BD, especially in the final position.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*takut	ata'u	ataot	ataot	Afraid/takut
*buk	bu	bu	bok	Fur/bulu
*anak	ono	nono	anak	Child/anak
*kutu	utu	autu	utu	Louse/kutu
*kulit	uli	--	--	Skin/kulit
*bəbak	--	bebek	bebek	

[2] Consonants PAN features *g

The consonant PAN *g remained to be inheritance linearly in BS and BD.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*dagiŋ	nagole	dagiŋ	dageŋ	Meat/daging
*gusuk	laduxu	gosok	gosok	Rub/gosok

[3] Consonants PAN features *ŋ

The consonant PAN *ŋ just mastering a deletion in the final position, especially, in BN whereas, the BS appears sporadically in the final position, and BD still appears regularly at any position. It is illustrated in the following data:

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*tutuŋ	tunu	atutuŋ	tutuŋ	Burn/bakar
*aŋin	naŋi	naŋi	aŋin	Wind/angin
*buluŋ	bulu	bulu	buluŋ	Leaf/daun
*roŋo	roŋo	loŋo	maŋgal	Ear/dengar

e) Glottal consonants feature *q and *h

There are two glottal consonants i.e. *q and *h who behave the same in its lowering on BN, BS, and BD. PAN *q and *h always disappeared in the BN and BS, among in position initial, medial, and final. PAN *q as well as vanished in BD, however, not with *h who remain in the final position in BD. See the following example.

PAN	BN	BS	BD	Glos
*basaq	abasə	abaə	afasə	Wet/basah
*qatey	ate	ede	ate	Care/hati
*waRih	hari	hari	balal	Day/hari
*tanah	tanə	danə	lanca	Land/tanah
*bunuh	bunu	(fa)bunu	bunuh	Kill/bunuh
*daRah	do	do	dalah	Blood/darah
*hijun	ixu	nixu	ihon	Nose/hidung
*hitem	aifə	aifə	mətəm	Black/hitam
*hituŋ	erai	eton	eton	Count/hitung

From the above lexicon comparison, it appears that BN inherit the same changes and it almost equal to the BS, however, the majority differ in BD.

4. Conclusion

The vowel and consonant sounds PAN degrade many forms and in different ways in the derivatives language, i.e. Nias, Sigulai, and Devayan Languages. Although Nias and Sigulai Language are spoken on two different islands, both still show a relation each other fairly closely than in the Devayan Language. That is, the features of the Austronesian language of consonants and vowels can prove its existence in Nias Language and Sigulai language. The qualitative evidence that can be concluded from the above comparison is: (1) The sound that is inherited linearly *i dan *u and consonants *l, *g. (2) The sound that experience fading is *s/*S, *c, *y, *k, *q, dan *h. (3) the sound that is inherited linearly once-deletion and change is *e > ə, o, and u; *a > a, o; *p > f, b; *b > f, w/v; *m > m, Ø; * > w, b; *t > t, d; *d > d, l, n; *n > g, k; *r/*R > r, l, Ø; *ŋ > ɲ, n; *Z > j, l; dan *ŋ > ŋ, Ø. The changes are varied in point number three took place on the syllable at a different position. From all types of changes, it turns out all the lexicons PAN mastering closed syllable, experiencing consonant deletion at any their syllables in Nias Language and partly Sigulai Language.

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