

## Derivation in the Lamaholot Language, Tanah Boleng Dialect, Bayunta'a Village

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### ABSTRACT

*This study aims to (1) investigate which word classes undergo derivational morphological processes in the Lamaholot language, Tanah Boleng dialect, Bayunta'a Village, and (2) describe the derivational morphological processes in the Lamaholot language, Tanah Boleng dialect, Bayunta'a Village. The method used is a morphological study. The research subjects are reliable informants. The research object is derivation in the Lamaholot language, Tanah Boleng dialect, Bayunta'a Village. The qualitative data analysis process is supported by qualitative descriptions using structured interviews. The results of this study revealed the following data obtained by the researcher. There are three types of affixes in the Lamaholot language: prefixes, suffixes, and infixes. There are three types of prefixes: (be-), (ke-), and (pe-). There is one type of suffix: (n-). There is one type of infix: (en-). There is also a change in the initial phoneme which is only found in verb derivation, namely the change from the basic word class of verb to noun (deverbal noun), which is (/D/ > /K/), (/G/ > /K/), (/H/ > /N/), and (/T/ > /N/).*

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## 1. INTRODUCTION

Language is generally understood as an orderly, patterned arrangement that forms a meaningful or functional whole. Language is a system. Thus, language is not a collection of elements gathered haphazardly but rather a structured set of elements.

As stated in Wikipedia, the Lamaholot language (LL) is the language used by the Lamaholot ethnic group, whose speakers are spread from the eastern tip of Flores to western Solor, including pockets along the northern coast of Pantar, northwest Alor, and the surrounding islands. LL exhibits diverse dialects in pronunciation depending on the location of its speakers. Keraf (1979:11) clarifies the division of dialects into 33 distinct forms. LL speakers on the mainland of East Flores, particularly on Adonara Island, are distributed across eight districts: East Adonara, West Adonara, Central Adonara, Ile Boleng, Kelubagolit/Klubagolit, Witihamia, and Wotan Ulumado.

Morphology is a branch of linguistics that studies morphemes within a language and investigates the relationships between morphemes to form words. Essentially, morphology serves as the intellectual compass guiding the exploration of words and their metamorphoses, offering a profound insight into the multifaceted nature of linguistic transformations (Meyfiany, Awololon, & Suarliem, 2024). Hence, morphology refers to the smallest linguistic unit that can no longer be divided into smaller parts. As Verhaar (1996) states, morphology identifies the basic units of a language as grammatical units. Morphological processes that typically play a role in word formation include affixation (prefixes, suffixes, infixes, and confixes), cliticization, and reduplication.

Derivation refers to the combination of two morphemes, where the combination changes the meaning and word class. In contrast, inflection is the combination of two morphemes that does not change the word's meaning or class. Bauer (1988:12-13, as cited by Bagiya, 2018, in *Inflection and Derivation in Indonesian Language: Journal of Language and Research*) states that derivation is a morphological process that produces new morphemes, while inflection is a morphological process that generates different forms of the same lexeme.

Verhaar outlines three types of morphological processes in his book *General Principles of Linguistics*: affixation, cliticization, and reduplication. However, this study focuses on the morphological process of derivation in the Lamaholot language, specifically in the Tanah Boleng dialect (LLTB) in Bayunta'a Village. The researcher chose the title "Derivation in the Lamaholot Language, Tanah Boleng Dialect, Bayunta'a Village" as the research focus due to the unique characteristics of derivation and the Lamaholot language itself. The distinctiveness of derivation can be seen in the addition of affixes to root forms, altering word classes and meanings. This transformation is evident in regional languages, such as in the Lamaholot dialect of East Adonara, where the verb *tane* ('to weave') becomes *tenanne* ('weaving tool'), changing from the verb class to the noun class. The uniqueness of the Lamaholot language, especially on Adonara Island, lies in the distinct dialects of each village, even though they belong to the same language family.

The objectives of this study are to examine the word classes that undergo the morphological derivation process in the Tanah Boleng Dialect of the Lamaholot language in Bayunta'a Village and to describe the morphological derivation processes in the Tanah Boleng Dialect of the Lamaholot language in Bayunta'a Village.

## 2. METHODS

This research is a descriptive qualitative study that produces descriptive data in the form of words spoken or written by individuals and observed behaviors. The study was conducted in Bayunta'a Village, Ile Boleng District, East Flores Regency, East Adonara. The type of data used in this study is primary data obtained directly from the first-hand sources at the research site. The data sources for this research are primary sources obtained through interviews conducted by the researcher with informants to gather data on the Lamaholot language from native speakers.

To collect data from the information sources (informants), the researcher, as the main instrument, required supporting instruments such as interview guides and recording devices. The data collection techniques employed by the researcher were interviews, and the data analysis technique used in this study was the distributional method (*metode padan*), as the research focuses on the speaker, the interlocutor, and the utterances themselves.

## 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

### A. Derivational Process of the Prefix "be-"

#### 1) Derivational Process of the Prefix be- + Verb → Noun (Deverbal Noun)

This derivational process involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, where the prefix *be-* results in a change in the word class from verb to noun. This process of changing a verb into a noun by adding the prefix *be-* can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Lawa* ('to make lawar') → *be-* + '*lawar*' → *belawa* ('lawar').
- b. *Wuge* ('to wear a hairbun') → *be-* + '*wuge*' → *bewuge* ('hairbun').
- c. *Lone* ('to wear a pillow') → *be-* + '*lone*' → *belone* ('pillow').
- d. *Wika* ('to break') → *be-* + '*wika*' → *bewika* ('breakage').

The base words *lone* (to wear a pillow), *wuge* (to wear a hairbun), *lawar* (to make lawar), and *wika* (to break) are verbs that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *be-*, changing

their class to nouns and altering their meanings to *belone* (pillow), *bewuge* (hairbun), *belawa* (lawar), and *bewika* (breakage). This process can be generalized as: prefix *be-* + verb → noun (*be-* + V → N).

## 2) Derivational Process of the Prefix *be-* + Verb → Adjective (Deverbal Adjective)

This derivation involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, where the prefix *be-* results in a change from verb to adjective. This process can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Lepet* ('to fold') → *be-* + '*lepet*' → *belepet* ('folded').
- b. *Odo* ('to be asleep') → *be-* + '*odo*' → *beodo* ('sound asleep').

The base words *odo* (to be asleep) and *lepet* (to fold) are verbs that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *be-*, changing their class to adjectives and altering their meanings to *beodo* (sound asleep) and *belepet* (folded). This process can be generalized as: prefix *be-* + verb → adjective (*be-* + V → A).

## 3) Derivational Process of the Prefix *be-* + Noun → Adjective (Denominal Adjective)

This derivational process involves the transformation of a noun as the base form, where the prefix *be-* results in a change in the word class from noun to adjective. This process can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Wai* ('water') → *be-* + '*wai*' → *bewai* ('watery').
- b. *Uran* ('rain') → *be-* + '*uran*' → *beuran* ('rainy season').

The base words *uran* (rain) and *wai* (water) are nouns that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *be-*, changing their class to adjectives and altering their meanings to *beuran* (rainy season) and *bewai* (watery). This process can be generalized as: prefix *be-* + noun → adjective (*be-* + N → A).

## 4) Derivational Process of the Prefix *be-* + Adjective → Noun (Deadjectival Noun)

This derivational process involves the transformation of an adjective as the base form, where the prefix *be-* results in a change from adjective to noun. This process can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Malu* ('hungry') → *be-* + '*malu*' → *bemalu* ('famine season').
- b. *Doan* ('distant') → *be-* + '*doan*' → *bedoan* ('something distant').
- c. *Data* ('damaged') → *be-* + '*data*' → *bedata* ('something damaged').

The base words *doan* (distant), *data* (damaged), and *malu* (hungry) are adjectives that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *be-*, changing their class to nouns and altering their meanings to *bedoan* (something distant), *bedata* (something damaged), and *bemalu* (famine season). This process can be generalized as: prefix *be-* + adjective → noun (*be-* + A → N).

## B. Derivational Process of the Prefix *ke-*

The change caused by the addition of the prefix *ke-* results in only one type of derivation, which is the derivation of adjectives. This derivation involves the transformation of an adjective as the base form, and by adding the prefix *ke-*, the word class changes to a noun. This derivational process can

be explained with the following examples:

- 18 a. *Bele* ('big') → *ke-* + '*bele*' → *kebele* ('a big person/tribal elder').
- b. *Geto* ('cut') → *ke-* + '*geto*' → *keneto* ('cutter').
- c. *Gilo* ('sour') → *ke-* + '*gilo*' → *kenilo* ('vinegar').

The base words *bele* (big), *geto* (cut), and *gilo* (sour) are adjectives that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *ke-*, changing their class to nouns and altering their meanings to *kebele* (a big person), *keneto* (cutter), and *kenilo* (vinegar). This process can be generalized as: prefix *ke-* + adjective  $\rightarrow$  noun ( $ke- + A \rightarrow N$ ).

### C. Derivational Process of the Prefix *pe-*

#### 1) Derivational Process of the Prefix *pe-* + Verb $\rightarrow$ Noun (Deverbal Noun)

This derivational process involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, where the prefix *pe-* results in a change from verb to noun. This process can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Lan* ('to steal')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*lan*'  $\rightarrow$  *pelan* ('thief').
- b. *Du'un* ('to sell')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*du'un*'  $\rightarrow$  *pedu'un* ('seller').
- c. *Liot* ('to spy')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*liot*'  $\rightarrow$  *peliot* ('spy').
- d. *Lile* ('to watch')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*lile*'  $\rightarrow$  *pelile* ('viewer').

The base words *lan* (to steal), *du'un* (to sell), *liot* (to spy), and *lile* (to watch) are verbs that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *pe-*, changing their class to nouns and altering their meanings to *pelan* (thief), *pedu'un* (seller), *peleta* (beggar), *peliot* (spy), and *pelile* (viewer). This process can be generalized as: prefix *pe-* + verb  $\rightarrow$  noun ( $pe- + V \rightarrow N$ ).

#### 2) Derivational Process of the Prefix *pe-* + Noun $\rightarrow$ Verb (Denominal Verb)

This derivation involves the transformation of a noun as the base form, where the prefix *pe-* results in a change from noun to verb. This process can be explained with the following example:

- a. *Nuhu* ('lip')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*nuhu*'  $\rightarrow$  *penuhu* ('to smell').

The base word *nuhu* (lip) is a noun that undergoes derivation with the addition of the prefix *pe-*, changing its class to a verb and altering its meaning to *penuhu* (to smell). This process can be generalized as: prefix *pe-* + noun  $\rightarrow$  verb ( $pe- + N \rightarrow V$ ).

#### 3) Derivational Process of the Prefix *pe-* + Verb $\rightarrow$ Adjective (Deverbal Adjective)

This derivation involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, where the prefix *pe-* results in a change from verb to adjective. This process can be explained with the following examples:

- a. *Late* ('to heat')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*late*'  $\rightarrow$  *pelate* ('heated').
- b. *Tutu* ('to tell a story')  $\rightarrow$  *pe-* + '*tutu*'  $\rightarrow$  *petutu* ('talkative').

The base words *late* (to heat) and *tutu* (to tell a story) are verbs that undergo derivation with the addition of the prefix *pe-*, changing their class to adjectives and altering their meanings to *pelate* (heated) and *petutu* (talkative). This process can be generalized as: prefix *pe-* + verb  $\rightarrow$  adjective ( $pe- + V \rightarrow A$ ).

### D. Derivational Process of the Suffix *n-*

The change caused by the addition of the suffix *n-* results in only one type of derivation, which is the derivation of verbs. This derivation involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, and adding the suffix *n-*, the word class changes to a noun. This derivational process can be explained by the example:

*Mate* ('to die') + *n*  $\rightarrow$  *maten* ('a dead person').

The base word *mate* (to die) is a verb that undergoes derivation with the addition of the suffix *n-*, changing its class to a noun and altering its meaning to *maten* (a dead person). This process can be generalized as: verb + suffix *n-*  $\rightarrow$  noun ( $V + n- \rightarrow N$ ).

### E. Derivational Process of the Infix en-

The change caused by the addition of the infix en- results in only one type of derivation, which is the derivation of verbs. This derivation involves the transformation of a verb as the base form, and by adding the infix en-, the word class changes to a noun (deverbal noun). This derivational process can be explained with the following examples:

- Tane* ('to weave') → 'tane' + en- → *tenane* ('weaving tool').
- Soko* ('to poke') → 'soko' + en- → *senoko* ('poke tool').
- Ture* ('to spin thread/cotton') → 'ture' + en- → *tenure* ('spinning tool for thread/cotton').

The base words *tane* (to weave), *soko* (to poke), and *ture* (to spin thread/cotton) are verbs that undergo derivation with the addition of the infix en-, changing their class to nouns and altering their meanings to *tenane* (weaving tool), *senoko* (poke tool), and *tenure* (spinning tool). This process can be generalized as: verb + infix en- → noun (V + en- → N).

### F. Other Forms of Derivation

In the derivational process of the Lamaholot language, Tanah Boleng dialect, Desa Bayunta'a, there are also other forms of derivation, such as the change in the initial phoneme. The initial phoneme change is only found in verb derivations, where the base verb class transforms into a noun (deverbal noun). Here are the words that undergo the change in the initial phoneme.

Example Words			Phoneme Change Process
<i>dira</i> (V) 'to comb'	<i>nira</i> (N) 'fan'		/D/ → /N/
<i>giri</i> (V) 'to comb (hair)'	<i>kiri</i> (N) 'comb'		/G/ → /K/
<i>genato</i> (V) 'to entrust'	<i>kenato</i> (N) 'entrustment'		
<i>hamo</i> (V) 'to sweep'	<i>namo</i> (N) 'broom'		/H/ → /N/
<i>huro</i> (V) 'to scoop'	<i>nuro</i> (N) 'spoon'		
<i>tubak</i> (V) 'to plant'	<i>nubak</i> (N) 'planting tool'		/T/ → /N/

## 4. CONCLUSION

Based on the analysis results, the following conclusions can be drawn: There are three types of affixes in the Lamaholot language: prefixes, suffixes, and infixes. There are three types of prefixes: (be-), (ke-), and (pe-). There is one type of suffix: (n-). There is one type of infix: (en-). Additionally, a change in the initial phoneme is found only in verbal derivation, where the base verb class changes into a noun (nominal deverbal), i.e., (/D/ > /K/), (/G/ > /K/), (/H/ > /N/), and (/T/ > /N/).

Affixes located at the front are called prefixes because they always attach to the beginning of the base word, those located in the middle are called infixes because they always attach in the middle of the base word, and those located at the end are called suffixes because they always attach to the end of the base word. These three types of affixes are commonly referred to as prefixes, infixes, and

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