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## **SYNTACTIC VARIATION OF MAKASSARESE, A MEMBER OF THE SOUTH SULAWESI GROUP OF LANGUAGE IN AUSTRONESIAN GREAT FAMILY, CLASSROOM LANGUAGE ASSESSMENT**

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### **Abstract**

*Makassarese belongs to the member of the South Sulawesi group of the great family of Austronesian languages of Indonesia which is spoken by 2,130,000 (2000 census). Their homeland is South Sulawesi but many of them live in other provinces in Indonesia. This research aims to investigate sentence structure of Makassarese as a member of the Malayo-Polynesian branch of the Austronesian language family. The study employed qualitative approach in which the researcher asked the subjects to write down the equivalent of Indonesian language in Makassarese. The Indonesian sentences consisting of 15 sentences. The subjects were the students of Graduate Program who attended Morphosyntax subject. The research finding reveals that Makassarese has two basic sentence patterns in terms of its syntactic variation, they are SVO and VSO. In Makassarese, pronoun 'I' has two forms, independent pronoun 'Inakke' (I) and ergative pronoun '-ka' (I). Makassarese speakers employ some sentence patterns and pronouns with various purposes and functions.*

## **Keywords**

Syntactic Variation, Constituent Structure, Makassarese

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## **1. Introduction**

Makassarese is one of the languages in Austronesian great family used by Makassar people who live in South Sulawesi. Makassar people live in the southern part of Sulawesi island, Makassar as the capital of South Sulawesi, Gowa, Takalar, and Jenepono. Makassarese is also spoken by people who live in Maros, Pangkep, and Bantaeng.

The word “Makassar” is always used to explain the word which follows it, e.g Makassar people, Makassar land, and Makassar Harbour Cicy (Polinggomang, 2002). Polinggomang therefore add that Makassar people is one of ethnic groups who live in the southern and western part of Sulawesi island. Language and Makassar people or in some literatures is called Macassar, Macassarese, Makasar, Makassa, Makassaarsche, Makassarese, Mangasara, Manggasa, dan Mengkasara (Yamaguchi, 2010). The Makassar people live in some areas in South Sulawesi, Maros, Gowa, Galesong, Takalar, Topejawa, Laikang, Cikoang, Jenepono, and Bangkala (Mattulada, 2011).

Makassar people together with Bugis people live in south peninsula of Sulawesi island, and they come from Toraja family (Mattulada, 2011). Mattulada adds that Makassar people has their own language (dialect) used in the cultural and civilized lives.

Nowadays, Makassarese is spoken by 2.130.000 people (Census 2000). L2 users are 400.000 and many ethnic Chinese speak Makassar dialect as L1 (Lewis, *et al*, 2015).

## **2. Research Method**

The subjects of this study were Makassar people who speak Makassarese well. The subjects of the study were students of Teaching English as a Foreign Language (TEFL) Graduate Program, Universitas Negeri Makassar who attended Morphosyntax subject taught by the researcher. Those subjects were from Gowa, Takalar, Jenepono, and Makassar.

The study was conducted by distributing the list of sentences, consisting of 15 sentences in Indonesian language. The subjects were therefore asked to translate those Indonesian

sentences into Makassarese. Those sentences contain a wide variety of syntactic variation. Those sentences are as follows.

- (1) *Saya menulis surat untuk ibu di kampung.*(I write a letter to my mother in the village).
- (2) *Ibu saya membeli ikan di pasar.* (My mother buys fish in the market).
- (3) *Adik saya menangis setiap hari.* (My younger brother cries every day).
- (4) *Kakak saya membantu bapak di kebun.* (My elder brother helps father in the garden).
- (5) *SBY menonton pertandingan sepak bola di stadion Gelora Bung Karno.* (SBY watches football competition in Gelora Bung Karno Stadion).
- (6) *Mahasiswa di perguruan tinggi sering tawuran* (Students at the university often engage in a gang fight).
- (7) *Barack Obama berkunjung ke Indonesia beberapa bulan yang lalu.* (Barack Obama visited Indonesia a few months ago).
- (8) *Banyak mahasiswa yang tidak belajar menjelang ujian semester.* (Many students do not study before the examination).
- (9) *Pak Malik memiliki rumah besar dan indah.* (Mr. Malik has large and beautiful house).
- (10) *Saya ingin makan apel asal Amerika.* (I want to eat apple from USA).
- (11) *Saya ingin minum kopi pahit.* (I want to drink bitter coffee).
- (12) *Nenek saya sedang sakit keras.* (My grand father is sick).
- (13) *Padi di sawah telah menguning.* (Rice in the rice field has become old).

The Makassarese sentences were analyzed to identify their constituent structure and sentence (construction) patterns. The aims of this analysis is to see and understand syntactic variation of Makassarese.

### **3. Review of Literature**

Moravcsik (2006) argues that there are three main constituents of a sentence: subject, object, and verb – with six possible sentence structures. They are: Thai (SVO), Hindi (SOV), Tagalog (VSO), Malagasy (VSO), and two languages in Brasil, yakni bahasa Hixkaryana (OVS) dan Urubi (OSV). Other than these languages, Makassarese as a language spoken in South Sulawesi also has a wide variety of sentence pattern.

Makassarese is one of vernacular languages spoken by Makassar people who live in Sulawesi Selatan peninsula (Daeng, 2015). According to Kaseng (1978) in Daeng (2015) said that the areas of Makassarese language use are some parts of Pangkep, some parts of Maros, Makassar, Jenepono, Bantaeng, Gowa, Takalar, some parts of Bulukumba, some parts of Sinjai, Selayar, and small parts of Bone.

Pelenkahu (1974) in Daeng (2015) has five dialects, those are: Lakiung, Turatea, Bantaeng, Konjo, and Selayar dialect.

In Makassarese, sentence is called *lampangkana* (Daeng, 2015). Sentence is bigger syntactic element than word, phrase, and clause (Daeng, 2015).

According to Daeng (2015), there are some types of sentences in Makassarese, those are simple sentences and complex sentences. Daeng therefore gave some simple sentences and complex sentences as follows.

a. Simple Sentence

1) *Battuak ri Bantaeng subanngi.*

‘I came from Bantaeng yesterday.’

2) *Annginungi kopi manggeku ri barikbasaka.*

‘My father drank coffee yesterday.’

3) *Appilajarakak ammaca aksara lontarak.*

‘I am studying to learn aksara lontarak.’

b. Complex Sentence

1) *Daeng Temba nipilei akjari kepala desa ri tumakbuttaya lanri carakdekna na bajik ri paranna tau.*

‘Daeng Temba was elected to be the head of village in the society because he is clever and respects to other people.’

2) *Pattojeng-tojengi appilajaraka sollanna nucarakdek!*

‘Please study hard in other becoming smart person.’

#### **4. Findings and Discussion**

As a language used in every day life in some areas in South Sulawesi, Indonesia, Makassarese has some sentence patterns as revealed in the following sentences.

##### **Sentence (1)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Nakke annulisi' sura' mange ri amma'ku ri kampong.

S VDO IO Adjunct

I write letter mother-my in village

"I write a letter to my mother in the village."

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Annulisi'ka' sura' mange ri ammakku ri kampong.

VS DO IO Adjunct

write I letter mother-my village

"I write a letter to my mother in the village."

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Annulisikka sura' mange ri ammakku ri kampong.

VS DO IO Adjunct

write I letter mother-my village

"I write a letter to my mother in the village."

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Inakke annulisi surat mange ri ammakku ri kampong.

S V DO IO Adjunct

I write a letter my mother village

"I write a letter to my mother in the village."

**Sentence (2)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Amma'ku ammalli juku ri pasara.

S VO Adjunct

mother-my buy fish market

"My mother buys fish in the market."

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Amma'ku ammalli juku ri pasaraka.

S VO Adjunct

mother-my buy fish market

"My mother buys fish in the market."

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Ammakku ammalli juku ri pasaraka.

S V O Adjunct

mother-my buy fish market

"My mother buys fish in the market."

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Ammakku ammalli juku ri pasaraka.

S V O Adjunct

mother-my buy fish market

“My mother buys fish in the market.”

**Kalimat (3)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Andikku anggarru allo-allo.

S V Adjunct

younger brother-my cry every day

“My younger brother cries every day.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Andikku anggarru allo – bangngi.

S V Adjunct

younger brother-my cry every day

“My younger brother cries every day.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Andikku anggarru allo-allo.

S V Adjunct

younger brother-my cry every day

“My younger brother cries every day.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Andikku angngarru’ allo-allona.

S V Adjunct

younger brother-my cry every day

“My younger brother cries every day.”

**Kalimat (4)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Kakangku ambantu bapakku ri koko.

S VO Adjunct

elder brother-my help father-my garden

“My elder brother helps my father in the garden.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Kakangku nabali mangekku ri kokonna.

S VO Adjunct

elder brother-my help father-my garden

“My elder brother helps my father in the garden.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Daengku ambantui bapakku ri kokoa.

S VO Adjunct  
elder brother-my help father-my garden  
“My elder brother helps my father in the garden.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Kakangku nabali tettaku ri kokoa.  
S VO Adjunct  
elder brother-my help father-my garden  
“My elder brother helps my father in the garden.”

**Sentence (5)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

SBY accini-cini pattandangang sepa' bola ri stadiung Bung Karno.  
S V O Adjunct  
SBY watch football competition Bung Karno Stadion  
“SBY watches football competition in Bung Karno Stadion.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

SBY accini-ciniki lomba pagolo' ri stadion Gelora Bung Karno.  
S V O Adjunct  
SBY watch football competition Bung Karno Stadion  
“SBY watches football competition in Bung Karno Stadion.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

SBY accinik pagolo ri stadion Gelora Bung Karno.  
S VO Adjunct  
SBY watch football competition Bung Karno Stadion  
“SBY watches football competition in Bung Karno Stadion.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

SBY accini'-cini pagolo ri stadiung Gelora Bung Karno.  
S V O Adjunct  
SBY watch football competition Bung Karno Stadion  
“SBY watches football competition in Bung Karno Stadion.”

**Sentence (6)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Mahasiswa ri perguruan tinggia sangging la' sibajia.  
S Adjunct Mod V  
students university often engage in gang fight.  
“Students at the university often engage in gang fight.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Pakuliayya ri sikola tinggia sammaraki assibajjia.

S            Adjunct            Mod    V  
students    university            often    engage in gang fight.  
“Students at the university often engage in gang fight.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Mahasiswa tinggia sekolana biasa assibaji.

S            Adjunct            Mod    V  
students    university            often    engage in gang fight.  
“Students at the university often engage in gang fight.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Mahasiswayya nangai assiba’jia.

S            Mod    V  
students            often    engage in gang fight.  
“Students at the university often engage in gang fight.”

**Sentence (7)**

**Bahasa Makassar, dialek Takalar**

Barack Obama menger ri Indonesia bulang-bulang allaloo.

S            V            Adjunct  
Barack Obama    visit    Indonesia a few months ago  
“Barack Obama visited Indonesia a few months ago.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Barack Obama battui ri Indonesia ri bulan laloo.

S            V            Adjunct  
Barack Obama    visit    Indonesia a few months ago  
“Barack Obama visited Indonesia a few months ago.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Barack Obama nabattui Indonesia ri bulan laloo.

S            V            Adjunct  
Barack Obama    visit    Indonesia a few months ago  
“Barack Obama visited Indonesia a few months ago.”

**Makassar, Jeneponto dialect**

Niaki Barack Obama mange ri Indonesia ri bulang-bulang laloo.

V            S            Adjunct



visit Barack Obama Indonesia a few months ago  
“Barack Obama visited Indonesia a few months ago.”

**Sentence (8)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Sanna mahasiswa tena na appilajara punna ero ujiang semester.

SVAdjunct

many students do not study before examination

“Many students do not study before examination.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Jai pakulia tena na appilajara na biringmo ulangang.

SVAdjunct

many students do not study before examination

“Many students do not study before examination.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Jai mahasiswa tena appilajara punna laeroki ujian.

SVAdjunct

many students do not study before examination

“Many students do not study before examination.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Jai mahasiswa tena nappilajara punna eromi ujiang.

SV Adjunct

many students do not study before examination

“Many students do not study before examination.”

**Sentence (9)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Dg Malik nia balla lompona nampa ga'ya.

S V O

Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house

“Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Pak Malik ammallaki balla sanna lompona nampa bajiki kacinikanna.

S V O

Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house

“Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Bapak Malik napatai ballok lompoa era ga'ga.

S V O

Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house

“Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Nia' balla' lompo siangang ga'gana pa' Malik.

V O S

have big and beautiful house Mr. Malik

“Mr. Malik has big and beautiful house.”

**Sentence (10)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Eroka angnganre appele battu ri Amerika.

V1 S V2 O Adjunct

want-I eat apple from USA

“I want to eat apple from USA.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Eroka angnganre appele battu ri Amerika.

V1 S V2 O Adjunct

want-I eat apple from USA

“I want to eat apple from USA.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Eroka angnganre apel battua ri Amerika.

V1 S V2 O Adjunct

want-I eat apple from USA

“I want to eat apple from USA.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Erokka angnganre appele' battu ri Amerika.

V1 S V2 O Adjunct

want-I eat apple from USA

“I want to eat apple from USA.”

**Sentence (11)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Asea ritanayya kunyi'mi.

S AdjunctV

rice field rice have become old  
“Rice in the field rice has become old.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Asea ritanayya kunyi'mi.

S AdjunctV

rice field rice have become old  
“Rice in the field rice has become old.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Kunyimi asea ritanayya.

V S Adjunct

Have become old rice rice field  
“Rice in the field rice has become old.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Didimi parea rigalunga.

V S Adjunct

Have become old rice rice field  
“Rice in the field rice has become old.”

**Sentence (12)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Eroka angnginung kopi pai.'

V1-S V2 O

want-I drink bitter coffee  
“I want to drink bitter coffee.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Eroka Angnginung kopi pai.

V1-S V2 O

want-I drink bitter coffee  
“I want to drink bitter coffee.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Inakke ero angnginung kopi pai.

S V1 V2 O

I want to drink bitter coffee  
“I want to drink bitter coffee.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Erokka angnginung kopi pai'  
V1-S V2 O  
want-I drink bitter coffee  
“I want to drink bitter coffee.”

**Sentence (13)**

**Makassarese, Takalar dialect**

Nenekku sannaki garringna  
S Adjective  
grand mother-my sick  
“My grand mother is sick.”

**Makassarese, Gowa dialect**

Nenekku sannaki garringna.  
S Adjective  
grand mother-my sick  
“My grand mother is sick.”

**Makassarese, Makassar dialect**

Nenekku garring sarroi.  
S Adjective  
grand mother-my sick  
“My grand mother is sick.”

**Makassarese, Jeneponto dialect**

Garring sannaki antokku.  
Adjective S  
Sick grand mother-my  
“My grand mother is sick.”

**5. Concluding Remarks**

Makassarese as a vernacular language in South Sulawesi is widely spoken in everyday life. It belongs to the great family of Austonesian languages. The construction of Makassarese has two basic constituent structures or sentence patterns, they are SVO and VSO. In Makassarese, pronoun ‘I’ has two forms, independent pronoun ‘*Nakke or Inakke*’ (I), ergative pronoun ‘*-ka*’ (I), as ini: *Nakke annulisi’ sura’ mange ri amma’ku ri kampung* (I write a letter to my mother in the village) and *Annulisi’ka’ sura’ mange ri ammakku ri kampung*(I write a letter to my mother in the village).

Makassarese speakers employ some sentence patterns and pronouns with various purposes and functions. One of the purposes is for pragmatic reasons, in which the Makassarese speakers use various expressions in morphosyntax (syntax and lexicon), they are mutually intelligible.

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