

The Intricate History and Diverse Identities Underlying the Varied *Javanese* Dialects across East Java's Regions

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Abstract

Many people think Javanese dialects are limited to Central Java, East Java, and Yogyakarta, but actually, East Java itself has multiple regional dialects. This research is conducted to analyse the differentiation of dialect in some area in East Java. It emphasized on the difference of accent and dialect that was owned by speakers of each region. The method used was 'Qualitative Data Collection' in the form of interview, directed to 9 informants, 3 of them are from Pantura (Lamongan, Gresik, and Surabaya) which is called as *Arekan*, 3 people from *Mataraman* (Madiun, Kediri, Blitar) and 3 people from Tapal kuda area (Probolinggo, Situbondo, Jember). The participants were around 20 – 40 years old which mostly come from mid-level social life. The participants were assigned a theme for dialogue in their mother tongue, which was recorded using a voice recorder. The recording results were then analysed. Furthermore, the participants were interviewed to explore their family background, educational history and the environment in which they grew up. The research finding revealed that there were many differences in the terms of dialect among the three areas in East Java, such as the choice of words that the speaker of each region has, the difference in vocabulary, word formation, and also accent. The differences of dialects reflect the intricate history and varied identities of Javanese people across East Java. Understanding these differences enriches not only the study of linguistics, but also the broader appreciation of Indonesia's cultural mosaic.

Keywords: dialect, accent, word formation, *Mataraman*, *Arekan*, *Pandalungan*