

LOCAL WISDOM IN SPEECH SEQUENCE OF MINANGKABAU SOCIETY: AN ANALYSIS OF REQUEST FROM *KATO NAN AMPEK* PERSPECTIVE

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Abstract

Minangkabau society is well-known by their wisdom in communication. This is reflected by the way they speak and interact which is in line with the wise expression *takilek lauak dalam tabek, lah jaleh jantan jo batinonyo* 'once a fish moves in the swimming pool, it's possible to identify its sex'. The wisdom in communication may be a distinctive feature of Minangkabau society called local wisdom. One of many Minangkabau wisdoms can be seen in the way they request.

This paper is aimed at describing the sequence of Minangkabau people in doing request viewed from *Kato Nan Ampek's* perspective. *Kato nan Ampek* 'The Four words' is regarded as the rule of Minangkabau people in speaking. Whenever Minangkabaunesse speak, they will concern this *kato nan ampek*. Besides, the possible reasons underlying the choice of certain sequence as well as the local wisdom implied is also analyzed.

The research was conducted in Batusangkar (Tanah Datar Regency) and Padang Panjang City. These locations are elected on consideration that these two cities historically, especially, Batusangkar, are regarded as the pioneer of Minangkabau society. It is assumed that the people still maintain Minangkabau tradition and culture in the way of interacting and speaking. By applying observational method, interviewing and note-taking technique, the data are collected. To analyze the data, pragmatic and referential identity method is used.

Having been related to the concept of speech act of request (Revita, 2008); *kato nan ampek* (Navis, 1984), and context (Yule, 1986), it is found that there are four patterns of speech sequence when Minangkabaunesse do request. They are (a) (1) 1 in 1; (b) 2 in 1; (c) 3 in 1; dan (d) multi acts in 1. The choice of these patterns is basically based on several reasons, namely (i) social; (ii) psychological; (iii) ; and (iv) religious aspect. Furthermore, from these various patterns, it is also demonstrated that there are four speech wisdoms of Minangkabau society