

The Language of “Anger” in Minangkabau

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Emotion is generally defined as “a tendency to feel...” (James, W. 1892 in Strongman, 2003: 21). This feeling can be expressed in terms of verbal (words) and/or non-verbal (behavior, mimic, and facial expressions). When focusing on word use, we can employ different words or phrases to express the feeling, for example the feeling of *love*, *anger*, *sadness*, and so on. In English, the feeling of love can be expressed by the use of words “I love you”, “you are so lovely”, “you are always in my mind”, “you’re the only one that I want”, etc. Furthermore, Lakoff & Kövecses (1987) in Kövecses (2002) study the emotion ‘anger’ in the use of metaphors. They find a special case of metaphor: “ANGER IS A HOT FLUID IN A CONTAINER”. They explain that in English the basic emotion *anger* can be seen in the sentences: “He was boiling, Sam exploded, She is seething, I was fuming for hours, and He was pissed off”. The present study examines the emotion *anger* that is expressed through different words in Minangkabau language. Data used in this analysis were taken from the Max Planck Institute for Evolutionary Anthropology’s Padang Field Station and from other sources (the Newspapers and Minangkabau proverbs). For example:

A. **berang** ‘angry’

1. kalo dak tu nyo merah muko *berang* ajo karajo paruik nyo tu Buk.
TOP NEG that 3 red front angry just work stomach 3 that TRU-mother
2. sampai (te)tangga-(te)tangga ko nyo *berang* jo tu Buk.
arrive RED-neighbor this 3 angry with that TRU-mother

B. **marabo** ‘angry’

3. **marabo** nyo ma.
MA-angry 3 MA
4. **marabo bana** Andi ma
MA-angry very TRU-Suwandi MA
5. ah **marabo-rabo** lo sangko gua adiak gua lo marusakan HP ko a.
PFCT MA-RED-angry furthermore suspect 1SG younger.sibling 1SG
furthermore MA-damaged-QAN cellular.phone this FILL
6. "(o)nde **marabo sabana** ko ha" kecek ante Mi.
XCL MA-angry SA-very this oh talk TRU-aunt TRU-Emi
7. (be)ko Sumi ko **marabo-rabo** ndak (da)pek rokok nyo ma.
later Sumi this MA-RED-angry NEG get cigarette 3 MA

C. **mangka**

8. tu yo **mangka** kalang den.
that EXCL unripe gizzard 1SG

D. **bangih**

9. baa ka bangih awak sinan tu.
BA-what to angry 1 there that

E. **marumeh paruik**

11. marumeh paruik den mancaliak waang mah.

F. **Manggalagak darah**

12. Manggalagak darah nyo
Boiled blood 3

G. **Tabik suga**

13. alah tabik suganyo dek lamo bana manunggu.
PFCT rise angry 3 DEK long time very wait

From the data analysis I found: (1) the use of different vocabularies or phrases to reveal the emotion *anger*, such as *berang*, *marabo*, *bangih*, *basisunguik*, *merah talingo*, *manyarengih*, *tabik suga*, etc., (2) the use of metaphor, for example *marumeh paruik/mamiyuah paruik*, *angek ati*, *manggalagak darah*, *mandidiah ati*, *mangka ati*, *mangka kalang*, *sampik kalang*, and *maloyo paruik*, and (3) the most frequently words used to express anger. All of the findings will be discussed in this paper.

References

- Kövecses, Z. (2002). Emotion concepts: Social constructionism and cognitive linguistic. In S. R. Fussell (Ed.), *The verbal communication of emotions: Interdisciplinary perspective*. New Jersey: LEA.
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