

ABSTRACT

Amalia, Risa. Language Choice of Non-Javanese Immigrants in Sepanjang-Taman, Sidoarjo. Submitted as the partial fulfillment of the requirement for the Sarjana Degree of the English Department Faculty of Letters, Airlangga University.

This study is aimed to analyze one of language phenomena, that is language choice. Language choice is a condition in which a speaker is faced with the decision to choose a particular language in a certain social context. It happens when the speaker lives in the new place which the language used is different from the speaker's native language. The speaker should be able to choose which language suits the needs.

The writer takes 22 first generation of non-Javanese immigrants from various ethno-linguistic backgrounds who live in Sepanjang-Taman, Sidoarjo. The writer proposes two problems as follows: (1). What social conditions promote their choice of converging to or diverging from Javanese language and culture? (2). How do they identify themselves? The writer uses qualitative approach by doing a language survey toward language use of non-Javanese immigrants in Sepanjang-Taman, Sidoarjo, particularly those who live near Pasar Sepanjang. The writer takes the technique of data collection as follows: (1). Collecting information about the immigrants who are potential to be the participants, (2). Recruiting the selected participants, (3). Distributing the questionnaire. The technique of data analysis that are used: (1). Tabulating the collected data, (2). Categorizing the data into five socio-linguistic variables, Describing the data in the Discussion section.

The results of this study illustrate non-Javanese immigrants' choice of convergence to Javanese language and culture. The social factors that promote their convergence are the functional motivation, the social need of acceptance, and the effectiveness of the communication. Though non-Javanese immigrants in Sepanjang-taman, Sidoarjo show positive trend toward assimilation, it does not automatically mean that they have lost their cultural identity. In fact, they still hold their identity as a particular ethnic group.

Keywords: convergence, divergence, ethno-linguistic, cultural identity, socio-linguistic variables, assimilation.