

Reconstruction Vowels and Diphthongs of Proto Patani Malay Dialect of Narathiwat

Rekonstruksi Vokal dan Diftong Dialek Melayu Patani Narathiwat Purba

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ABSTRACT

*The Patani Malay dialect is one of the Malay dialects spoken in southern Thailand, primarily in Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, and parts of Songkhla. Based on several studies on the Patani Malay dialect that have previously discussed, it can be confirmed that no researcher has yet attempted to reconstruct the proto form of the Patani Malay dialect, especially in the Narathiwat region. Accordingly, this study aims to reconstruct a proto-dialect known as the Proto-Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat (PPMDN), with a focus on two main components: vowels and diphthongs. Vowel and diphthong reconstruction is selected because these two sound types form the foundation of historical linguistic research. The approach used in this study is a descriptive qualitative method based on a historical linguistic approach. This research employs two central methods to gather linguistic information and data: library research and field research. The study focuses on several villages in the Narathiwat region, including Kresor (KRS), Buketa (BKT), Puyok (PYK), Munok (MNK), Bena Luwas (BNL), and Aikubu (AKB). The analysis conducted shows that the PPMDN has eight vowel phonemes, namely the vowels *i, *u, *e, *ə, *o, *ɛ, *ɔ, and *a, which consist of two vowels narrow, three semi-narrow vowels, two semi-wide vowels, and one broad vowel and has five diphthong phonemes, namely diphthongs *ai, *ae, *ae, *au, and *ao. This study is expected to contribute to and further develop knowledge in Malay linguistics, particularly concerning the Patani Malay dialect.*

Keywords: diphthongs; historical linguistics; Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat; reconstruction; vowels

ABSTRAK

*Dialek Melayu Patani merupakan salah satu dialek Melayu yang dituturkan di bahagian selatan Thailand, terutamanya di kawasan Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, dan sebahagian Songkhla. Berdasarkan beberapa kajian mengenai dialek Melayu Patani yang telah dibincangkan oleh penyelidik terdahulu, dapat ditegaskan bahawa belum ada penyelidik yang cuba untuk melakukan rekonstruksi bentuk purba dialek Melayu Patani, khususnya di wilayah Narathiwat. Sehubungan itu, kajian ini bertujuan untuk membina semula sebuah dialek purba yang dikenali sebagai dialek Melayu Patani Narathiwat Purba (DMPNP) dengan memberi fokus kepada dua komponen utama iaitu vokal dan diftong. Rekonstruksi vokal dan diftong dipilih kerana kedua-dua jenis bunyi ini merupakan asas dalam kajian linguistik sejarawi. Pendekatan yang digunakan dalam kajian ini ialah metode kualitatif deskriptif berdasarkan pendekatan linguistik sejarawi. Penyelidikan ini menggunakan dua kajian utama untuk mendapatkan maklumat dan data linguistik, iaitu kajian kepustakaan dan kajian lapangan. Kajian ini tertumpu kepada beberapa kampung di wilayah Narathiwat, antaranya Kresor (KRS), Buketa (BKT), Puyok (PYK), Munok (MNK), Bena Luwas (BNL), dan Aikubu (AKB). Analisis yang dijalankan menunjukkan bahawa DMPNP mempunyai lapan fonem vokal iaitu vokal *i, *u, *e, *ə, *o, *ɛ, *ɔ, dan *a yang terdiri daripada dua vokal sempit, tiga vokal separuh sempit, dua vokal separuh luas, dan satu vokal luas serta mempunyai lima fonem diftong, iaitu diftong *ai, *ae, *ae, *au, dan *ao. Kajian ini diharapkan dapat menyumbang dan memperkembangkan lagi pengetahuan dalam linguistik Melayu, khususnya berkaitan dengan dialek Melayu Patani.*

Kata kunci: diftong; linguistik sejarawi; dialek Melayu Patani Narathiwat; rekonstruksi; vokal

INTRODUCTION

The state of Patani was initially known as Langkasuka, according to Chinese visitors in connection with the states of Southeast Asia, a state known as Langkasuka or Lang-Ya-Shiu (Paul Wheatley, 1961 as cited in Nik Anuar Nik Mahmud, 2006) already existed in the second century AD. Based on these records, European historians believe that the original location of the state of Patani was on the eastern coast of the Malay Peninsula, between Senggora (Songkhla) and the state of Kelantan, with its capital in the Yarang district (Nik Anuar Nik Mahmud, 2006).

In 1816, Patani was divided into seven smaller states, collectively known as the Kawasan Tujuh Negeri Melayu. These states were Pattani, Nongchik, Yaring, Saiburi, Yala, Raman, and Rangek. Based on the names of these states, some are now regions, while others are districts in Thailand today. Pattani and Yala are regions in southern Thailand, while Nongchik, Yaring, and Saiburi are districts in the Pattani region. Similarly, Raman is a district in the Yala region, and Rangek is in the Narathiwat region (Ruslan Uthai, 2011). In 1902, during the reign of King Chulalongkorn, Patani was fully absorbed into Siamese rule and became part of the Siamese kingdom (Nanthawan, 1978, as cited in Ruslan Uthai, 2011). In 1906, the seven small states were reorganized into four states: Pattani, Yala, Saiburi, and Bangnara. In 1915, the state of Bangnara was renamed as Narathiwat (Worawit Baru, 1990). Furthermore, the states were reorganized into the Monthon Patani administrative division (Nanthawan, 1978, as cited in Ruslan Uthai, 2011). In 1916, Siam's administrative system underwent further changes, and Patani's status shifted from a monthon (division) to a changwat (region). As a result, the four states became Changwat Pattani, Changwat Yala, Changwat Narathiwat, and Changwat Saiburi (Worawit Baru, 1990). By 1916, Patani, a Malay state, was officially reduced to the status of a region within southern Thailand (Ruslan Uthai, 2011).

The Patani Malay dialect is one of the Malay dialects spoken in the southern part of Thailand, primarily in the regions of Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, and parts of Songkhla, including the districts of Chana, Nathawi, Thepha, and Sabayoi. This dialect developed from the Malay linguistic system and has been influenced by other languages, adapting to communication needs in the modern era. As a result, several unique linguistic features have emerged in the Patani Malay dialect, including long consonants, aspirated consonants, nasalized vowels, and monosyllabic words. In addition to the Patani Malay dialect, other languages spoken in the region include Baku Thai, the Southern Thai dialect, Chinese, and Kensiu. While the Patani Malay dialect is a minority language in Thailand, it remains the dominant language in the southern provinces of Pattani, Yala, and Narathiwat (Ruslan Uthai, 2011).

Two terms are related to the names *Pattani* and *Patani*. These terms are often used interchangeably to refer to the Malay dialect spoken in the Pattani, Yala, Narathiwat, and parts of the Songkhla regions (Ruslan Uthai, 2011). However, Paitoon M. Chaiyanara (2005) argues that *Pattani* is more appropriate for referring specifically to the district in the Pattani region, while *Patani* should be used to describe the broader area where the dialect is spoken, including not only the Pattani region but also surrounding areas like Yala, Narathiwat, and parts of Songkhla.

RESEARCH PROBLEM

There are several studies conducted in the South of Thailand on the Patani Malay dialect, including studies by Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005), Ruslan Uthai (2011), Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023), Sareeyah Star (2016), Shahidi A. Hamid & Mumad Chelaeh (2020), Suraiya Chapakiya (2020), Angsana Na Songkhla & Ilangko Subramaniam (2021), Rahim Aman et al. (2021) and Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022; 2022). The studies by Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005), Sareeyah Star (2016), and Suraiya Chapakiya (2020) examine the phonological and morphological aspects of the Patani Malay dialect. While the studies by Ruslan Uthai (2011), Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023), and Rahim Aman et al. (2021) examined dialectological aspects. In addition, other linguistic studies have researched the Patani Malay dialect, including those by Shahidi A. Hamid and Mumad Chelaeh (2020), Angsana Na Songkhla and Ilangko Subramaniam (2021), and Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2020; 2022).

Studies by Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005), Sareeyah Star (2016), and Suraiya Chapakiya (2020) primarily focus on phonological aspects. Their study emphasizes the phonological and morphological aspects of the processes and issues related to the Patani Malay dialect. Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005) and Suraiya Chapakiya (2020) examine phonological aspects of the Patani Malay dialect in general. Meanwhile, Sareeyah Star (2016) examines the phonological aspects of Saga and Tannyung villages in the Yala region. The analysis carried out reveals that the Patani Malay dialect has eight vowel phonemes and two diphthong sounds, specifically the diphthongs [aj] and [aw], while the consonants comprise 21 consonant phonemes (Sareeyah Star, 2016). It differs slightly from Suraiya Chapakiya's study (2020), which states that the Patani Malay dialect has 12 vowel phonemes and 28 consonant phonemes. Next, the study of Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005) discusses the re-formation of a new morphophonological system in the Patani Malay dialect. However, all of these studies focused only on phonological and morphological aspects without involving reconstruction study. Therefore, incorporating a reconstruction-based study is essential to determine whether the phonological features identified in previous research also exist in the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat or if they exhibit different linguistic characteristics. Hence, the implementation of this study is considered significant in substantiating this matter.

Studies by Ruslan Uthai (2011), Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023), and Rahim Aman et al. (2021) are generally more about dialectological studies. The Ruslan Uthai (2011) study examined lexical items and highlighted the unique features of the Patani Malay dialect, including long consonants, aspirated consonants, nasalized vowels, and monosyllabic words. Meanwhile, studies by Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023) and Rahim Aman et al. (2021) examined mapping aspects in the Patani Malay dialect. Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023) was the first researcher to study aspects of dialect mapping in Patani, especially in the Yaha area and Yala region. The effort to map the Patani Malay dialect of the Yaha variant was carried out using a synchronic dialectology approach. The analysis reveals an alignment and spread of phonological systems for vowels and consonants in certain village areas of Yaha. The lexical data shows that there are differences between the villages in Yaha. Similarly, Rahim Aman et al. (2021) employed the same approach, but the focus of the study area differed, specifically in the Waeng district of the Narathiwat region. The analysis carried out shows that the phonological aspect shows a more systematic and orderly alignment compared to the lexical aspect. In terms of lexical aspects, the findings indicate that most of the word lists examined in this study exhibit unsystematic use.

Next, other linguistic studies use the Patani Malay dialect as a subject of research, including the studies of Shahidi A. Hamid & Mumad Chelaeh (2020), Angsana Na Songkhla & Ilangko Subramaniam (2021) and Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022; 2022). The study by Shahidi A. Hamid and Mumad Chelaeh (2020) focused on the field of acoustic phonetics by showing and explaining the phonetic realization characteristics of the production of long consonant utterances in the Patani Malay dialect based on the acoustic phonetics approach. The analysis shows that there is indeed consonant lengthening in the Patani Malay dialect, but it exists in a specific way, which is only for certain sounds. This study found that only voiced plosive sounds coincide with the concept of consonant lengthening in the Patani Malay dialect. The studies of Angsana Na Songkhla & Ilangko Subramaniam (2021) and Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022; 2022) looked at aspects of language borrowing. Angsana Na Songkhla and Ilangko Subramaniam (2021) discuss consonant changes in Sanskrit loanwords to Thai and Patani Malay dialects. Similarly, the study of Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022; 2022) discusses language borrowing in the Patani Malay dialect. This study is focused on reviewing and listing loanwords and the borrowing process of the Thai language in the Patani Malay dialect.

Based on several studies on the Malay dialect of Patani that previous researchers have discussed, it can be confirmed that the study of the reconstruction of the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat has yet to be touched by any previous researcher. Still, many languages are found in the Patani Malay dialect inventory, including studies on phonology, dialectology, mapping, acoustics, and borrowing. However, it is undeniable that the compilation of previous studies has made a significant contribution and provided the researcher with an initial impression to produce new research and a more detailed and accurate description.

Accordingly, this study focuses on the aspect of reconstruction, which involves an effort to re-establish a proto dialect referred to as the Proto-Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat (PPMDN) through a historical linguistic approach. This branch of linguistics was developed to uncover the proto form of a language that lacks written manuscripts. In pursuit of this objective, historical linguists examine language data or variants from currently existing languages to carry out reconstruction processes, thereby recovering the proto form of the language. Such a process is crucial for uncovering the hypothetical proto-language, which was once spoken in the past before it diverged and eventually developed into the current forms spoken today (Rahim Aman, 2017). Therefore, in fulfilling the core objective of the historical linguistics discipline, this study will examine the reconstruction of vowel and diphthong phonemes in the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat to obtain the vowel and diphthong phoneme forms of the Proto-Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat. Vowel and diphthong reconstruction is selected because these two sound types form the foundation of historical linguistic research.

RESEARCH OBJECTIVE

This study employs the reconstruction method to identify the proto phoneme form of the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat. Specifically, it aims to achieve two main objectives: to describe the vowel phonemes and diphthongs system of the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat (PMDN) and to reconstruct the vowel phonemes and diphthongs form of the Patani Malay dialect of Narathiwat (PMDN) to obtain the proto form of these two phonemes.

LITERATURE REVIEW

There have been several studies conducted on the Patani Malay dialect in the southern part of Thailand, including those by Paitoon M. Chaianara (2005), Ruslan Uthai (2011), Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023), Sareeyah Star (2016), Shahidi A. Hamid & Mumad Chelaeh. (2020), Suraiya Chapakiya (2020), Angsana Na Songkhla & Ilangko Subramaniam (2021), Rahim Aman et al. (2021) and Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022; 2022). Paitoon M. Chaianara's study (2005) examined the phonological development of the language and found that certain matrices of distinctive sound features had either expanded or diminished. When certain features disappeared, a process of transphonologization occurred, leading to a new set of phonemes that served to differentiate meanings in words. The study also discussed the re-formation of a new morphophonological system in the Patani Malay dialect, driven by the shifting of the suprafixed element of consonant length. This shift, influenced by the tone phonemes in Thai (which are descending rather than flat), facilitated the development of a morphophonological system better suited to the formation of new words and the determination of their original meanings.

Ruslan Uthai (2011) presents characteristics of long consonants, aspirated consonants, nasalized vowels, and monosyllabic words, which are considered unique features of the Patani Malay dialect. The focus of the study is the existence and spread of these features across the Malay sub-dialects of Patani. Sound matching and vocabulary variation based on the Patani Malay dialect can be divided into ten distinct variations. However, several consonants and vowel phonemes are not uniformly spread across all the variations, including consonant phonemes /f/ and /x/, long consonants, aspirated consonants, and vowel phonemes consisting of combinations of vowels.

Ibrohim Malee (2016; 2023) presented issues related to geographic dialect mapping, highlighting the parallelism and spread of phonological and lexical features in the Patani Malay dialect of the Yaha variant. The study also examines the similarities and differences between the dialect variants spoken in the Yaha area. The researcher employs a geographic dialect mapping method, commonly used in dialectology studies, and a descriptive synchronic dialectology approach. The analysis reveals alignment and spreads in the phonological systems of vowels and consonants across several villages in Yaha. The lexical data indicates differences between the villages. The study concludes that three main dialect groups exist in the Yaha district: the original Yaha variant, the immigrant variant, and the dialect mixing variant.

Sareeyah Star (2016) examined the phonological features of the Patani Malay dialect, focusing on the vowel and consonant phoneme inventories and the phonological processes in the Saga and Tannyung subvariants. This study applies a structural phonological approach to determine segmental characteristics and identify vowel sounds, consonants, and diphthongs in the Saga and Tannyung subvariants. Additionally, this approach is used to analyze the phonological processes in these subvariants. The analysis reveals that both the Saga and Tannyung subvariants have eight vowel phonemes, two diphthongs, [aj] and [aw], and 21 consonant phonemes. The study also identifies the influence of the Thai language, particularly the modification of the [t] sound into [t^h]. The phonological process observed in these subvariants involves the change of diphthongs into monophthongs, with the diphthongs [aj] and [aw] in final syllable positions transforming into the broad vowel [a] and semi-wide vowel [ɛ], respectively.

Shahidi A. Hamid & Mumad Chelaeh (2020) discuss issues related to acoustic phonetics, focusing on the production of sound in the Patani Malay dialect. The study explains the characteristics of phonetic realization, specifically the production of long consonant utterances. The approach used is an acoustic-phonetic one. The study focuses on plosive sounds that lengthen the initial consonants of a word in the Patani Malay dialect, comparing them with the corresponding consonant sounds spoken by the Patani community. The analysis reveals that consonant lengthening does occur in the Patani Malay dialect, but it is limited to specific sounds. The study found that only voiced plosive sounds exhibit consonant lengthening in the Patani Malay dialect.

Suraiya Chapakiya (2020) examines the phonological structure of the Patani Malay dialect, focusing on the vowel and consonant phoneme inventories, as well as the phonological processes within the dialect. The analysis reveals that the Patani Malay dialect has 12 vowel phonemes, which can be categorized into three groups: oral vowels, derived vowels, and nasalized vowels. The consonant inventory consists of 28 phonemes, divided into three categories: original consonants, aspirated consonants, and loan consonants. The syllable structure in the Patani Malay dialect follows the KV(K) pattern, classified as the third type of syllable structure. The study also identifies several phonological processes, including assimilation, vocalization, elision, glossary, monotonization, and vowel changes.

Angsana Na Songkhla & Ilangko Subramaniam (2021) discuss the consonantal changes of Sanskrit loanwords in Thai and Patani Malay dialects. This study used 210-word lists. The analysis shows consonant changes in both languages, whether in the Thai language or the Patani Malay dialect. There are several types of consonant changes in Sanskrit loanwords in the Thai language and the Patani Malay dialect: consonant deletion, consonant insertion, devoicing, voicing, and consonant substitution. All the processes discussed above have been incorporated into the spoken Thai and Patani Malay dialects and have been in use to this day.

Rahim Aman et al. (2021) presented issues related to geographic dialect mapping, highlighting parallelism and diffusion based on phonological and lexical aspects found in the Waeng district of Narathiwat. The researchers employ the geographic dialect mapping method, a commonly used approach in dialectology studies, in conjunction with a descriptive, synchronic dialectology approach. The analysis shows that the phonological aspects exhibit a more systematic and orderly alignment compared to the lexical aspects. In contrast, most of the word lists in the study are unsystematic. The alignment and spread in the Waeng variation can be divided into three main categories: the original Waeng variation, the foreign or immigrant variation, and the dialect-mixing variation.

Abdonloh Khreeda-oh et al. (2022) discuss the revision of Thai loanwords in the Patani Malay dialect, focusing on changes in meaning by comparing the meanings of related words. The study's findings suggest that some words retain their original meanings while others change their meanings. Words that have changed meaning have assimilated into the Patani Malay dialect to the point where speakers are often unaware that they are loanwords. There are two types of borrowing processes in the Patani Malay dialect: borrowing without meaning change and borrowing with meaning change. Loanwords that undergo meaning change can be further divided into three types: meaning expansion, meaning narrowing, and meaning exchange. Overall, borrowing these words helps meet daily communication needs and enriches the vocabulary of the Patani Malay dialect.

Abdonloh Khreedah-oh et al. (2022) discuss Thai loanwords in the Patani Malay dialect and the borrowing processes of the Thai language from a sociolinguistic perspective. The study's findings reveal that the Patani Malay dialect has two borrowing processes: the importation process and the substitution process. The importation process produces two types of loanwords: loanwords and loan blends. In contrast, the substitution process involves taking a word or expression from Thai and replacing it with an existing form in the Patani Malay dialect, meaning only the structure or meaning of the Thai word is borrowed. Overall, in addition to direct borrowing from Thai, the Patani Malay dialect also adapts Thai loanwords to fit the existing system of the dialect.

METHODOLOGY

This study aims to reconstruct the proto form of the Patani Malay dialect, particularly in the Narathiwat region. The research method employed in this study is a descriptive qualitative approach based on a historical linguistic framework. Two primary methods are employed: library research and field research. The library research involves gathering information from various sources such as thesis, journals, academic texts, and other materials related to the Patani Malay dialect to understand and compare findings from previous studies. The field research, on the other hand, focuses on obtaining fresh data about societal phenomena (Asmah Hj. Omar, 2015). This method includes selecting the study location, choosing informants, employing data collection techniques, analyzing the data, and presenting the results.

This study was conducted in the Narathiwat region, specifically in three districts: Waeng, Sungai Kolok, and Sungai Padi. Six villages were involved in the study: Kresor (KRS), Buketa (BKT), Puyok (PYK), Munok (MNK), Benae Luwas (BNL), and Aikubu (AKB). The informants were selected based on NORM criteria (non-mobile, old, rural, male), which is commonly used in dialectological studies to obtain more consistent and natural linguistic data (Chambers & Trudgill, 1998). However, in certain cases, informants were selected contrary to the NORM criteria by using the NORF criteria (non-mobile, old, rural, female). Ajid Che Kob (1985) suggests that female informants are considered more suitable than male informants because women tend to be more conservative in their language use. Therefore, data obtained from female informants are regarded as more authentic and reflective of traditional language forms. In this study, only one informant was selected to represent each research location or area. In total, six informants were involved in this study, comprising three male and three female informants.

Two main data collection methods were employed: the talk and check methods (Mahsun, 2005). Data collection techniques included interviews, writing, recording, submitting pictures, and word lists. Data collection from the selected informants was conducted using both structured and unstructured interview techniques. The structured interviews were conducted using a pre-prepared word list to ensure that the data collection process remained aligned with the established guidelines. For instance, the researcher presented images to the informants using a smartphone. These images were prepared in advance and shown to the informants while questions such as "What is this?" were posed. The informants were required to respond by naming the item depicted in the image using their dialect. The responses provided by the informants were transcribed using the International Phonetic Alphabet (IPA) system and recorded using a smartphone. The recording device served as an essential tool in field research, allowing the entire interview session to be documented and facilitating later verification of the transcribed data (Siti Hajar Mohammed et al., 2024).

Meanwhile, the unstructured interview technique was primarily used to gather morphological data. In this approach, informants were encouraged to speak freely, for example, by narrating the history of their village or sharing life experiences. This method aimed to elicit words and phrases more naturally and spontaneously, reflective of everyday speech (Siti Hajar Mohammed et al., 2024). The data were analyzed and presented through phonetic transcription using symbols, tables, and diagrams to describe the phonological system of the Patani Malay dialect in Narathiwat (PMDN). The analysis was further enhanced using a historical linguistic approach, specifically the reconstruction method, to identify the proto phoneme form.



FIGURE 1. Map of Narathiwat region
Source: mapsofword.com

RESEARCH APPROACH

The phonemes of the PPMDN are presented using the internal reconstruction method to achieve the goals of this study. Language reconstruction is an effort to reorganize proto linguistic features that have evolved into modern isolects used by speakers today (Mahsun, 1995 as cited in Nur Habibah Che Rosdi et al., 2023). Before applying the reconstruction method, five important terms must be understood (Campbell, 2004; Rahim Aman, 2017):

- i. Proto language: A hypothetical language believed to be the ancestor of several known languages or a language that results from the reconstruction of compared derived languages.
- ii. Related languages: Languages that are related to one another, with their common ancestor being derived from the same proto language.
- iii. Cognate words: Words that share similar forms and meanings with words in different languages, but these different languages are descended from the same proto language.
- iv. Sound correspondence: A set of sound patterns in cognate words collected from several derived languages.
- v. Reflex: The form of a word or element in descendant languages that originates from proto forms in several derived languages.

Furthermore, the method for reconstructing a proto language has the following criteria (Crowley & Bower, 2010; Rahim Aman, 2017):

- i. Determine the cognate words of the language to be compared. In other words, words that show similarities in form and meaning need to be identified first. However, this identification should not be made until words that are borrowed, iconic, or coincidental have been excluded. Once the non-cognate words are excluded, what remains are the cognate words.
- ii. Compiling the language sound correspondence sets that were compared. Using the data in TABLE 1, the sound correspondence can be obtained as follows:

TABLE 1. Examples of sound correspondence set

Tongan	n	o	f	o
Samoan	n	o	f	o
Rarotongan	n	o	ʔ	o
Hawaiian	n	o	h	o

Source: Modified from Rahim Aman (2017)

- iii. There are four correspondence devices, as shown in TABLE 1, the first, second, and fourth correspondences of all languages indicate /n/, /o/, and /o/. The third correspondence; Tongan /f/, Samoan /f/, Rarotongan /ʔ/, and Hawaiian /h/. The four correspondence devices can be written as shown in TABLE 2 below:

TABLE 2. Presentation of sound correspondence sets

Tongan	Samoan	Rarotongan	Hawaiian
n:	n:	n:	n:
o:	o:	o:	o:
f:	f:	ʔ:	h:
o:	o:	o:	o:

Source: Modified from Rahim Aman (2017)

- iv. Determine the proto phoneme for each set of correspondences. For each set of sound correspondences, we need to determine the proto phoneme, which is the phoneme believed to give rise to the set of phonemic correspondences found in the descendant languages. Each set of phonemic correspondences results in only one proto phoneme. Proto phonemes are marked with the symbol asterisk (*).

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The vowel phonemes and diphthongs of the PPMDN discussed in this study are phonemic reconstruction analysis of six villages, namely the villages of Kresor (KRS), Buketa (BKT), Puyok (PYK), Munok (MNK), Benae Luwas (BNL) and Aikubu (AKB). The result of the reconstruction proves that the total inventory and distribution of vowel phonemes and diphthongs of the PPMDN is as found in the following description. The spread of the PPMDN phonemes will show the existence of phonemes and phoneme sounds of the PPMDN based on their position, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable.

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN VOWEL PHONEMES

Based on the correspondence vocabulary reconstructed, PPMDN has eight vowel phonemes, namely the vowels *i, *u, *e, *ə, *o, *ɛ, *ɔ, and *a, which consist of two narrow vowels, three semi-narrow vowels, two semi-wide vowels, and one wide vowel. The PPMDN vowel phoneme inventory is shown in TABLE 3.

TABLE 3. PPMDN vowel phoneme inventory

Division	Front	Middle	Back
Position			
Narrow	*i		*u
Semi-Narrow	*e	*ə	*o
Semi-Wide	*ɛ		*ɔ
Wide	*a		

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN NARROW VOWEL PHONEMES *i AND *u

PPMDN has two narrow vowel phonemes: narrow front vowel *i and narrow back vowel *u. PPMDN narrow front vowel *i, which can be present in all word positions, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on regular sound matching in all word positions in all variants of PMDN, the vowel phoneme *i can be reconstructed as an proto phoneme of PMDN. Nevertheless, data shows that sporadic innovation has occurred when PPMDN *i > [ɛ] in KRS and AKB, while the other data remains as [i] in all variants of PMDN in the penultimate syllable position. Here is an example of the PPMDN *i reflex in the KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL, and AKB variants:

- MP *ikan ‘fish’ > PPMDN *ike; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB ike
- MP *ipar ‘sibling-in-law’ > PPMDN *ipa; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB ipa
- MP *pinta?/pintak ‘request (v)’ > PPMDN *mitək; KRS and AKB metə?; BKT, PYK, MNK and BNL mitə?
- MP *pipi(?) ‘cheek’ > PPMDN *pipi; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB pipi^l
- MP *kəriŋ ‘dry’ > PPMDN *kəyiŋ; KRS, PYK, BNL and AKB k^həyiŋ; BKT and MNK kəyiŋ
- MP *kunit ‘yellow’ > PPMDN *kuniŋ; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB kuniŋ
- MP *bəŋci? ‘hate’ > PPMDN *bəŋji; KRS, PYK, BNL and AKB bəŋ^hji; BKT and MNK bəŋji^l
- MP *tali ‘rope’ > PPMDN *tali; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB tali^l

PPMDN narrow back vowel *u, which is present in all word positions, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on regular sound matching in all word positions in all variants of PMDN, the vowel phoneme *u can be reconstructed as an proto phoneme of PMDN. Nevertheless, data show that sporadic innovation has occurred when PPMDN *u > [ɔ] in BNL and [o] in AKB, while other data remain as [u] in all variants of PMDN at the word-initial position. In the penultimate syllable position of PPMDN *u > [ə] in AKB, the other data remains as [u] in all variants of PMDN at this position. Likewise, the closed final syllable position of PPMDN *u > [ɔ] in BNL and AKB while the other data remains as [u] in all variants of PMDN at this position. Here is an example of the PPMDN *u reflex in the variants KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB:

- MP *ubat ‘medicine’ > PPMDN *hubat; KRS and PYK huba?; BKT and MNK uba?; BNL əba?; AKB oba?
- MP *uler ‘snake’ > PPMDN *ula; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB ula
- MP *rumput ‘grass’ > PPMDN *yuput; KRS and BNL upu?; BKT, PYK and MNK yupu?; AKB yəpu?
- MP *m/u(n)tah ‘vomit’ > PPMDN *mutəh; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB mutəh
- MP *gəmək ‘fat’ > PPMDN *gəmu; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK gəmu?; BNL and AKB gəmə?

MP *ʃʌbut ‘pull out’ > PPMDN *ʃʌbut; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB ʃʌbuʔ
MP *daɣuʔ ‘chin’ > PPMDN *daɣu; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB daɣu^w
MP *malu ‘shy’ > PPMDN *malu; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB malu^w

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN NARROW SEMI-VOWEL PHONEMES *e, *ə AND *o

PPMDN has three semi-narrow vowel phonemes: semi-narrow front vowel *e, semi-narrow middle vowel *ə, and semi-narrow back vowel *o. PPMDN semi-narrow front vowel *e is only present in the closed final syllable position and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on regular sound matching at certain word positions in all PMDN variants, the vowel phoneme *e can be reconstructed as a proto PMDN phoneme. Nevertheless, data shows that sporadic innovation has occurred when PPMDN *e > [a^e] in AKB while other data remain as [e] in all variants of PMDN at closed final syllable position. Here is an example of the PPMDN *e reflex in the variants KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB:

MP *kait ‘hook’ > PPMDN *kahet; KRS and BNL gaheʔ; BKT, PYK and MNK kaheʔ; AKB gaha^eʔ
MP *kulit ‘skin’ > PPMDN *kulet; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB kuleʔ
MP *pasir ‘sand’ > PPMDN *pase; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB pase

PPMDN semi-narrow middle vowel *ə is only present in the penultimate syllable position. Based on regular sound matching at certain word positions in all PMDN variants, the vowel phoneme *ə can be reconstructed as a proto PMDN phoneme. Nevertheless, data show that sporadic innovation has occurred when PPMDN *ə > [u] in BNL, while the other data remains as [ə] in all variants of PMDN at the penultimate syllable position. Here is an example of the PPMDN *ə reflex in KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB variants:

MP *(mb)A-renaŋ ‘swim’ > PPMDN *bəɣəne; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK b^əɣəne; BNL w:uŋe; AKB w:əne
MP *pərut ‘belly’ > PPMDN *pəɣot; KRS, PYK, BNL and AKB p^həɣoʔ; BKT and MNK pəɣoʔ
MP *təbəl ‘thick’ > PPMDN *təba; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB təba

PPMDN semi-narrow back vowel *o is only present in the closed final syllable position and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on regular sound matching at certain word positions in all PMDN variants, the vowel phoneme *o can be reconstructed as a proto PMDN phoneme. Nevertheless, data show that a sporadic innovation occurred when PPMDN *o > [a^u] in AKB. In contrast, the other data remains [o] in all variants of PMDN at the closed final syllable position. Here is an example of the PPMDN *o reflex in the variants KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB:

MP *puhun ‘tree’ > PPMDN *pəhoŋ; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK pəhoŋ; BNL pahon; AKB paha^uŋ
MP *mulut ‘mouth’ > PPMDN *mulot; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB muloʔ
MP *tumpul ‘blunt’ > PPMDN *tupo; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK tupo; BNL and AKB tup^ho
MP *tidur ‘sleep’ > PPMDN *tido; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB tido

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN SEMI-WIDE VOWEL PHONEMES *ɛ AND *ɔ

PPMDN has two semi-wide vowel phonemes: semi-wide front vowel *ɛ and semi-wide back vowel *ɔ. PPMDN semi-wide front vowel *ɛ, which is present in all word positions, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on the regular sound correspondences in all word positions in all PMDN variants,

the vowel phoneme * ϵ can be reconstructed as a proto PMDN phoneme. However, data shows that sporadic innovation has occurred if PPMDN * ϵ > [i] in BNL and AKB, while the other data remains as [ɛ] in all PMDN variants in the initial position of the word. In the penultimate syllable position, PPMDN * ϵ > [a] in BNL and AKB, while the other data remains as [ɛ] in all PMDN variants in this position. The following are examples of the PPMDN * ϵ reflex in the KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB variants:

MP *ikur ‘tail’ > PPMDN * ϵ ko; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK ϵ ko; BNL and AKB iko
MP *dahan ‘branch’ > PPMDN *dehe; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK dehe; BNL and AKB dahe
MP *libar ‘width’ > PPMDN *leba; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB leba
PPMDN *bekeŋ ‘fierce’ > KRS, PYK, BNL and AKB be^hkeŋ; BKT and MNK bekeŋ
MP *k/anan ‘right (direction)’ > PPMDN *kane; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK kane; BNL and AKB k^hane
MP *tanəm ‘plant (v)’ > PPMDN *tane; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB tane

PPMDN semi-wide back vowel * υ , which is present in all word positions, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on the regular sound correspondences in all word positions in all PMDN variants, the vowel phoneme * υ can be reconstructed as a proto PMDN phoneme. However, data show that sporadic innovation has occurred if PPMDN * υ > [u] in BNL and AKB, while the other data remains as [ɔ] in all PMDN variants in the initial position of the word. In the penultimate syllable position, PPMDN * υ > [a] in BNL and AKB, while the other data remains as [ɔ] in all PMDN variants in this position. The following are examples of PPMDN reflex * υ in the KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB variants:

MP *urat ‘vein’ > PPMDN * υ yaʔ; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK υ yaʔ; BNL and AKB uyaʔ
MP *uraŋ ‘people’ > PPMDN * υ ye; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK υ ye; BNL and AKB uye
MP *pohon ‘tree’ > PPMDN *p υ hoŋ; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK p υ hoŋ; BNL pahon; AKB paha^hŋ
MP *buhaya ‘crocodile’ > PPMDN *b υ jo; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB b υ jo
MP *kupah / *mamah ‘chew’ > PPMDN *mam υ h; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB mam υ h
MP *lihər ‘neck’ > PPMDN *t ϵ k ϵ k; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB t ϵ k ϵ ʔ
MP *muka ‘face’ > PPMDN *muk ϵ ; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK muk ϵ ; BNL and AKB muk^h ϵ
MP *mata ‘eye’ > PPMDN *mat ϵ ; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB mat ϵ

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN WIDE VOWEL PHONEME *a

PPMDN has a wide vowel phoneme, and the wide front vowel is *a. PPMDN wide front vowel *a, which is present in all word positions, i.e., word-initial position, penultimate syllable, closed final syllable, and open final syllable in all PMDN variants. Based on regular sound matching in all word positions in all variants of PMDN, the vowel phoneme *a can be reconstructed as a proto phoneme of PMDN. Nevertheless, data shows that sporadic innovation has occurred when PPMDN *a > [e] in KRS, BNL, and AKB, while the other data remains as [a] in all variants of PMDN at closed final syllable positions. The following is an example of the PPMDN *a reflex in KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB variants:

MP *api ‘fire’ > PPMDN *api; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB apiⁱ
MP *anak ‘child’ > PPMDN *an ϵ k; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB an ϵ ʔ
MP *tahun ‘year’ > PPMDN *tahoŋ; KRS and PYK tahoŋ; BKT and MNK taŋ; BNL t^hahoŋ; AKB taha^hŋ
MP *darah ‘blood’ > PPMDN *da υ h; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB da υ h
MP *angkat ‘raise, lift’ > PPMDN *akat; KRS, BNL and AKB akeʔ; BKT, PYK and MNK akaʔ
MP *bulat ‘round’ > PPMDN *bulat; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB bulaʔ
MP *hijaw ‘green’ > PPMDN *hid υ a; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK hid υ a; BNL and AKB id υ a
MP *dəŋər ‘hear’ > PPMDN *dəŋa; KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL and AKB dəŋa

RECONSTRUCTION OF PPMDN DIPHTHONG PHONEMES

Based on the correspondence vocabulary reconstructed, PPMDN has five diphthong phonemes, namely diphthongs *ai, *ae, *aε, *au, and *ao. All those diphthongs are only present in the position of penultimate syllables in specific variants of PMDN. Based on the findings below, some data shows the existence of PMDN that undergoes sporadic innovation when the root word ‘go up or ascend’ PPMDN *ai > [aε] in KRS and PYK. In contrast, BKT and MNK data remain as [ai] in the penultimate syllable position. Likewise, the diphthongs *ae, *aε, *au, and *ao which remain as [ae], [aε], [au], and [ao] in specific variants of PMDN in the position of the penultimate syllable as shown below:

MP *naik ‘go up, ascend’ > PPMDN *nahik; KRS and PYK naeʔ; BKT and MNK naiʔ; BNL nahiʃ; AKB naheʃ
MP *jahit ‘sew’ > PPMDN *dʒahet; KRS, PYK and BNL dʒaheʔ; BKT and MNK dʒaeʔ; AKB dʒahaʔ
PPMDN *mahij ‘play’ > KRS and PYK maεj; BKT and MNK maij; BNL and AKB mahij
PPMDN *bahuj ‘smell’ > KRS and PYK bauj; BKT and MNK bauʷ; BNL and AKB bahuj
MP *jauh ‘far’ PPMDN *dʒaoh; KRS, BKT, PYK and MNK dʒaoh; BNL and AKB jaoh

CONCLUSION

This study examines the reconstruction of the PPMDN by comparing six variants: KRS, BKT, PYK, MNK, BNL, and AKB. Although the compared variants do not exhibit such a significant phonetic contrast, this situation does not prevent the effort to reconstruct the parent dialect. In general, the PPMDN has eight vowel phonemes, namely the vowels *i, *u, *e, *ə, *o, *ε, *ɔ, and *a, which consist of two narrow vowels, three semi-narrow vowels, two semi-wide vowels, and one wide vowel. Meanwhile, diphthongs have five diphthongs, namely diphthongs *ai, *ae, *aε, *au and *ao. The findings of this study show slight differences compared to previous research, which generally assumed that the Patani Malay dialect employs the semi-wide middle vowel /ə/. However, based on the researcher’s analysis, the more accurate and appropriate vowel to represent the phonological system of this dialect is the semi-narrow middle vowel /ə/. Therefore, this study adopts the semi-narrow middle vowel /ə/ to replace the semi-wide middle vowel /ə/ commonly used in earlier analyses.

In this regard, the researcher sincerely hopes that this study will contribute valuable scientific material and further the development of knowledge in Malay linguistics, particularly concerning the Patani Malay dialect. However, the researcher is of the view that the writing and research efforts on the Malay dialect of Patani need to be continued because many aspects can be touched on, especially those related to the study of dialectology so that the uniqueness and special features of the Malay dialect of Patani can be highlighted to the outside community.

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