

The Influence of Arabic Religious Lectures on Changes in Sundane Language Style in Religious Communication Among The Alpha Generation

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Abstract: This study explores the influence of religious lectures in Arabic on changes in Sundanese language styles in religious communication among the Alpha Generation. As the use of Arabic in lectures becomes more widespread, especially among santri, there appears to be a shift in the way the Alpha Generation speaks in religious contexts. The purpose of this study is to identify the impact of Arabic religious lectures on the use of Sundanese language styles and how this affects religious communication among the younger generation. This research uses a sociolinguistic approach with a qualitative method, which involves observation, indepth interviews and analysis of the lecture texts. The results show that Arabic religious lectures encourage the use of Arabic words in daily conversation, code-switching between Sundanese and Arabic, as well as changes in language style that are more formal and religious. These changes occur as a form of Generation Alpha's adaptation to the needs of religious communication, where Arabic is seen as a strong religious symbol. This research contributes to sociolinguistic studies by highlighting the interaction between language and religious identity in the context of the Alpha Generation, and provides insight into the dynamics of language change in religious environments

Keywords: Arabic, Sundanese, Alpha Generation, Language style change.

Introduction

Religious communication plays an important role in the lives of Muslims, often involving the use of certain language to convey messages spiritual. In Indonesia, specifically in Java West, Language Sunda Arabic is the primary language used in various daily activities, including religious ones. On the other hand, in the context of religious education and lectures, Arabic dominates as the language widely used, especially for conveying religious texts sourced from the Qur'an and Hadith. The use of Arabic in religious lectures is not limited to formal teaching. in Islamic boarding schools, but also extends to various digital platforms and mosques that hold religious studies (T. Abdullah, 2011).

Amidst the changing times, Generation Alpha, born after 2010, grew up in a digital era deeply

connected to technology and global information. They were exposed to various cultural influences, including language styles. This generation, raised by social media and various digital applications, exhibits significant differences in communication styles compared to previous generations. In the realm of religious communication, Arabic-language sermons are now available in various formats, both on digital media and in live religious studies at mosques and Islamic boarding schools. This raises questions about the extent to which Arabic-language religious sermons influence the language styles used by Generation Alpha, particularly in the context of religious communication using Sundanese (H. Alwi, 2012).

This study aims to examine the influence of the use of Arabic in religious sermons on changes in Sundanese language styles in religious

communication among Generation Alpha. By considering the sociolinguistic dynamics occurring in society, this study will also explore the extent to which Arabic in religious sermons influences religious identity and intergenerational relations in the Sundanese context. Furthermore, this study will highlight the increasingly prevalent phenomena of code-switching and code-mixing, developing among the younger generation, reflecting the strong influence of Arabic on local languages (A. Bashir, 2015).

Through a sociolinguistic approach, it is hoped that this research can provide deeper insight into the relationship between language and society in a religious context. It is also hoped that this research will contribute to the development of sociolinguistic studies in Indonesia. By analyzing the interaction between Arabic and Sundanese in religious communication, this research is expected to open up discussion about language change, the role of language in social and religious identity, and the implications of its use in religious education that is more inclusive and relevant to development of the times (I. Wijayanti, 2020).

Materials and Methods

This study uses a qualitative approach with an exploratory descriptive design to understand the influence of Arabic-language religious sermons on changes in Sundanese language style in religious communication among Generation Alpha. The research method used is a qualitative method, which aims to describe in depth the phenomenon of changes in language style arising from the influence of Arabic use in religious sermons.

This research was conducted in Islamic boarding schools (*pesantren*) and mosques in West Java, a region known for its student communities and various religious activities that often involve Arabic. The focus of the research was Generation Alpha, students aged 10 to 16 who actively attend religious lectures and are exposed to the use of Arabic. Data collection techniques used included participant observation, in-depth interviews with students, lecturers, and religious figures, and analysis of religious lecture texts. The research instruments used included interview guides,

observation sheets, and documentation in the form of lecture recordings and conversation transcripts.

For data analysis, this study applies thematic analysis to identify patterns of language change, as well as discourse analysis to understand the phenomenon of code shift and merging between Sundanese and Arabic. The context of religious communication. Through this method, the study aims to explore the impact of Arabic language influence in religious sermons on changes in the language style used by Generation Alpha in everyday religious life (D. Fathurahman, 2020).

Results and Discussion

Influence Lecture Religion Speaking Arab to Change Style Sundanese language

Arabic-language religious lectures in Indonesia play a crucial role in shaping religious communication patterns, especially among Generation Alpha, who grew up in the digital age. Arabic is chosen as the medium for religious lectures because of its privileged position in Islam as the language of the Quran and the Prophet's hadiths. In recent years, there has been greater access to religious lectures through digital platforms such as YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, which has made the use of Arabic increasingly widespread in everyday religious communication (D. Fathurahman, 2020).

The influence of Arabic-language religious lectures on the religious life of Generation Alpha is very visible, especially in the use of Arabic vocabulary in communication. daily. The students of Generation Alpha begin to integrate lots of Arabic words into their conversations, especially when discussing religious topics. In lecture, terms like "surah", "paragraph", "sunnah", and "priest" often appear and are then used in everyday conversation, although still in the Sundanese context.

As an example, in discussion between students, you may hear expressions like, "Kumaha surah that in court day sermon earlier?" (How was the surah recited in the sermon?) Although this conversation took place in Sundanese, the word "surah" is an Arabic term that was naturally adopted in their conversation. This phenomenon indicates a lexical

shift in Sundanese due to Arabic influence, particularly in the religious sphere. In addition to these words, religious expressions such as "Alhamdulillah," "Insha Allah," and "Subhanallah" are also increasingly found in everyday conversation among Generation Alpha.

The phenomena of *code-switching* and *code-mixing* are increasingly visible among Generation Alpha, who are beginning to incorporate Arabic into their conversations. *Codeswitching* occurs when someone switches from one language to another within the same conversation, while *code-mixing* involves using elements of both languages within a single sentence. For example, expressions like "Bismillah, abdi badé shalat" or "Alhamdulillah, tos lancar sadaya" demonstrate a shift in language style from being entirely Sundanese to now being influenced by Arabic terms. This reflects that Arabic is not only used in the context of religious rituals, but also in everyday social interactions (S. Poplack, 1980).

According to Poplack (1980), in his theory of *code-mixing* and *code-switching*, this change or blending of languages not only occurs in certain contexts, but also functions as an expression of identity and a desire to communicate something more authentically. For Generation Alpha, the use of Arabic in social conversations and religious communication is a symbol of religious identity as well as an acknowledgment of Islamic teachings (B.B. Kachru, 2000).

In addition to mastering Arabic vocabulary, this change also reflects social acceptance of the use of Arabic in religious practices. The students feel that by using these Arabic words, they can strengthen their religious identity and feel closer to the Islamic teachings they receive through religious lectures (A. Bashir, 2015).

A concrete example of this shift in language style can be found in everyday conversations among Islamic boarding school students (*santri*), where they begin to adopt more formal and religiously relevant terms in their discussions. For example, in conversations discussing prayer or worship,

Generation Alpha tends to prefer the term "sunnah" over simply stating "way of worship." This indicates an increasing depth of meaning in their communication, along with the increasing use of Arabic in religious interactions (M. Setiawan, 2018).

Furthermore, this more structured language style is also reflected in the choice of sentences that are more polite and respectful, which reflects a commitment to religious values. For example, in context discussion about In a religious practice, a student might say, "If we do it with sincere intentions, God willing, our acts of worship will be accepted by Allah." (If we do it with sincere intentions, God willing, our acts of worship will be accepted by Allah). This change in style indicates that Arabic has merged with Sundanese in everyday conversation, while still maintaining a strong religious connection (D. Fathurahman, 2020).

The results of the study show that religious lectures delivered in Arabic not only influence the vocabulary used by Generation Alpha, but also give the impact that significant to style Language Which applied in religious communication. This transformation is marked by a shift from a language style that previously more informal and relaxed towards a more formal style and ritualistic. This change is seen in the way they discuss religious teachings, where they tend to use a more structured and serious sentence structure, comparable to the style of language generally used in religious lectures.

Adaptation Style Sundanese in Life Daily

One of the most prominent aspects in the adaptation of Sundanese language style is the increasing use of Arabic terms in everyday conversation, especially in community groups that active in Religious activities. Arabic terms that were previously rarely used in everyday conversation have now become part of a more common vocabulary, especially in the context of religious worship or rituals.

For example, in conversations among people who practice religious traditions, the use of the terms "sunnah," "zakat," "prayer," and "hajj" has become commonplace. This reflects a shift in vocabulary in Sundanese, where Arabic words with religious connotations are now often used without translation into Sundanese. The use of words such as "Alhamdulillah" (praise be to God), "Insha Allah" (if God wills), and "Subhanallah" (Glory be to God) is also increasingly heard in everyday conversation, even though the primary language remains Sundanese.

In some cases, these changes also include the use of phrases or sentences containing a combination of Sundanese and Arabic (code-mixing) in a single conversation. The phenomenon of *code-switching* and *code-mixing* can be observed in the everyday conversations of Generation Alpha. For example, individuals in this generation often express themselves with phrases such as "Alhamdulillah, I am ready to do charity" or "Subhanallah, I am ready to carry out religious duties." These expressions reflect a change in language style. Which leading to use Language Arab in structure sentence Language

Sundanese. Thus, Generation Alpha is increasingly familiar with adopting Arabic elements in their verbal interactions, especially in religious contexts (M. Setiawan, 2018).

Examples of phenomena change code *code-switching* in interaction daily Among Generation Alphas, it can be observed that they speak Sundanese but suddenly switch to Arabic when mentioning certain words or phrases. For example, they might say: "Saya abdi nyaah pisan kana sunnah Rasulullah, khususna dina ngajalankeun zakat fitrah" (meaning: "I really love the sunnah of Rasulullah, especially in performing zakat fitrah"). In this statement, the term "sunnah" is used. and "Rasulullah" are Arabic words inserted into Sundanese conversations, without changing the overall meaning of the sentence.

The phenomenon of *code-mixing* also shows clarity, as Generation Alpha begins to integrate Arabic words into Sundanese structures, creating more diverse sentences. For example, in a conversation about religion, they might say: "Kuring baris ngalaksanakeun ibadah, sareng ngarepkeun gajiran ti Allah, InsyaAllah" (meaning: "I will carry out my worship, and hope to receive a reward from Allah, InsyaAllah"). In this sentence, there is a combination of Sundanese and Arabic, indicating a higher level of Arabic integration in their communication.

These two phenomena not only signal linguistic change but also reflect social adjustments to the religious norms taught in Arabic-language sermons. Generation Alpha feels that incorporating Arabic into their conversations not only provides a more authentic religious nuance but also demonstrates their competence and mastery of the religious language (M.H. Zainal, 2021).

The integration of Arabic into everyday conversation indicates that Generation Alpha is beginning to consolidate Arabic into their Sundanese style. This process reflects a hybrid language style that combines elements of both languages in their daily communication. This aligns with Gumperz's (1982) theory of *code-switching*, which asserts that change in use Language often times aim For reflects social identity and enhances communication effectiveness in certain social situations. For Generation Alpha, the use of Arabic in everyday communication not only reflects their linguistic style but also serves as a marker of a more substantial religious identity (N. Schilling-Estes, 2013).

Apart from the influence of religious education and Arabic language lectures, the development of technology and digital media also has a significant role in change style Language Sundanese. With increasing use media social, video lecture, And applications based digital, generation young, specifically Generation Alpha is increasingly exposed to Arabic in more informal contexts, while still retaining its religious elements. A variety of religious materials, such as religious sermons, prayer tutorials, and hadith quotations, are distributed through platforms like YouTube, Instagram, and TikTok, which use Arabic as their medium.

On these platforms, users often interact by combining languages. Sunda and Arabic, which produces language styles digital This phenomenon demonstrates that the influence of Arabic-language religious lectures on the religious life of the Sundanese people is not limited to face-to-face interactions but also extends to the realm of digital media, which increasingly dominates religious communication among Generation Alpha. The implications of this phenomenon have a significant impact on their religious identity, which is increasingly linked to Arabic in everyday life (M. Setiawan, 2018).

Impact Use Language Arab in Lecture Religion to Social and Cultural Dimensions

The use of Arabic in religious sermons not only impacts linguistic aspects but also has significant implications for the social and cultural dimensions of society. In Indonesia, Arabic is often viewed as as

a language that sacred and holds a meaning in in religious context. For Generation Alpha, who are exposed to many religious lectures in Arabic, this language provides them with a sense of connection to the more universal and global teachings of Islam (A. Bashir, 2015).

One of the biggest impacts of using Arabic in lectures religion is the formation of identity social and a stronger cultural community, especially among the younger generation. Arabic, as the language used in worship and religious traditions, provides individuals with a religious identity. Many believe that mastering or simply understanding Arabic allows them to forge a closer connection with the authoritative teachings of Islam. Therefore, in the context of the predominantly Muslim Sundanese community, the use of Arabic in religious sermons significantly strengthens their spiritual connection with God and enhances a sense of community within the religious community.

However, on the other hand, the use of Arabic in everyday communication Also can pose challenges in matter understanding. Some members of Generation Alpha may not fully understand the meaning of the Arabic words they use. For example, although they frequently use expressions like "Alhamdulillah" or "Subhanallah," they may not always grasp their deeper meaning in a religious context. This phenomenon underscores the importance of explanation. Which more comprehensive from for speaker or teacher religion regarding the meaning of Arabic terms used in lectures (D. Fathurahman, 2020).

This phenomenon also creates differences in views between generations. Older generations may consider the use of Arabic in everyday conversation to be a cultural change that is inconsistent with tradition. local. On the other hand, Generation Alpha look at Language Arab as means to strengthen their religious identity and build connections with the global Muslim community. Generation Alpha also tends to be more open to change and development in language use.

The Arabic language, also used in religious sermons, contributes significantly to the mindset and social values of the community. Sermons delivered in Arabic incorporate many concepts and

values derived from broader Islamic teachings, often differing from more traditional local values. For example, concepts such as piety (taqwa), sincerity (ikhlas), zakat (zakat), and sunnah (sunnah) have become more familiar and accepted by the Sundanese community. A deeper understanding of these terms encourages changes in the community's mindset, particularly regarding generosity, adherence to religious teachings, and social behavior that is more in line with Islamic principles.

As an illustration, religious sermons often include calls to understand the essence of life, maintain morals, and interact with others based on the principle of justice. Although these concepts originate from religious texts in Arabic, they have been adapted to the social context of Sundanese society. These religious sermons provide practical guidance for individuals in their daily lives, with prioritizing religious values that emphasize equality, brotherhood, and community empowerment (M.H. Zainal, 2021).

On the other hand, this influence also has an impact to social structure in society. In many cases, Sundanese society, which was previously more collective in nature, and traditional societies began to adopt more individualistic and rational patterns of social interaction, in line with the values promoted in Arabic-language religious discourses. This process transformed relationships between individuals in society, as they began to judge social actions based on personal faith and piety, rather than solely on local social norms.

Conclusions

Based on results study This, can be concluded that lecture Religious discourse delivered in Arabic has a significant influence on changes in Sundanese language styles in the context of religious communication, particularly among Generation Alpha. The use of code-switching and code-mixing, which integrate Arabic into everyday conversation, reflects a linguistic transformation that impacts the way they communicate in everyday life. Aspect Religious. Arabic, often used in religious sermons, serves to strengthen religious identity and help

Generation Alpha better understand the sanctity and authenticity of Islamic teachings.

However, there are challenges related to understanding the meaning of Arabic terms, especially among the younger generation who may not fully grasp their meanings. Therefore, it is important for preachers and religious educators to provide more in-depth explanations of the meaning and usage of Arabic to avoid misunderstandings. Overall, the use of Arabic in religious sermons has a positive impact on enriching religious understanding. However, a balance is needed to ensure Sundanese remains intact and is not replaced by Arabic, especially in everyday communication.

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