



## LAMPUNGSE PHATIC EXPRESSION

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**Abstract.** Lampungese is one of the endangered languages today as some researchers claim. Therefore, hard efforts are needed to be conducted such as documenting, maintaining, and revitalizing the language. This paper was done to document one of the language features in Lampungese called phatic. Phatic is an expression word that does not have a certain meaning lexically but has a function in communication socially and pragmatically. Abundant examples for this can be found easily in spoken Lampungese in Lampung province, often they are uttered too in Indonesian spoken by people in the province. The step taken was to gather necessary data in form of talks and interviews. The data collected were then classified into smaller groups based on each characteristic. Having the data classified, a comprehensive analysis was then done to be able to answer the research question. In doing the analysis, the researcher was assisted by some native speakers who measured the analysis correctly. The findings cover various forms and functions of phatic. The first, phatic in Lampungese are found in the form of particle, word, phrase, and combination of phatic. The second finding shows that phatic is used as an affirmation of invitation, an affirmation of predicate, affirmation imperatives, comment markers, evidentiary affirmations, and familiarity builders. Moreover, phatic in Lampungese also expresses a certain emotional condition of the speaker. Those findings enrich the reference of Lampungese especially and linguistics generally.

**Keywords:** Phatic expression, Lampungese, language documentation

Received 13 June 2021 | Revised 25 June 2022 | Accepted 7 August 2022

### INTRODUCTION

Lampung language is a local language uttered by Lampungese ethnics in Lampung Province and its surrounding [1][4]. As a local language, it becomes an identity of Lampungese. As time goes and globalization comes, language contact, change of life purpose, need and point of view cannot be avoided. On the one hand, it gives us development. On the other hand, some parts of life are endangered since they are ignored. One example of them is local languages, such as Lampungese. Based on Septianasari [5] and Putri [6] the language is endangered since the number of its native speakers is decreased. Whereas, there are a lot of unique features found in the language, such as many phatic expressions used in daily

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communication. Therefore, the phatic expression of Lampungese must be analyzed and documented. This paper is conducted to find out the morphological type, functions, and emotional sense of Lampungese phatic expressions.

The phatic expression is a language feature used not to exchange ideas or thoughts, but to build and maintain social contact [7], [8]. Phatic expressions talk about trivial matters [9]. Kridalaksana [10] explains that there are three phatic expression functions, they are starting, maintaining, and strengthening conversations between speakers and interlocutors. Some examples of phatic expressions in English are hello, how are you, alright, etc. Kridalaksana [10] explains that phatic phrases can be categorized into several forms: particles, words, and phrases.

## **METHOD**

To complete the data for this research, the researcher collected the data by having daily conversations in the researcher's environment. Besides, the interview and recording were also conducted to complete the data. The activities of conducting those steps were done selectively depending on how important the data were. This research employed a qualitative method in which the data were classified based on its morphological forms and they were then analyzed based on its function according to the theory proposed by Kridalaksana [10] Finally, each datum was then investigated to find out its emotional sense.

## **RESULT AND DISCUSSION**

Based on the analysis, there are four forms of Lampungese phatic expressions; particle, word, phrase, and combined phatic. Functionally, some phatic is used as a sign of emphasizing, commentary, confirmatory, invitation, and pronouns. Emotionally, the phatic expression represents the emotion of anger, joy, calmness, coercion, trifling, shock, and neutrality.

Table 1. Lampungese particle phatic

No	Phatic	Function	Emotion	Example	English Closest Comparison
1	<i>Wah</i> /wah/	Substitution of greeting		<i>Haguk ja wah!</i> /hagu? ja wah/ 'Come here <i>wah</i> '	Hei, hello, bro, guys
2	<i>Wuy</i> /wuj/	Absolute affirmation of action	Neutral, joy, calm, and anger	<i>Dang wuy!</i> /daŋ wu/ 'Don't <i>wuy</i> '	Please!
3	<i>Pai</i> /paI/	Affirmation of command		<i>Mengan pai niku</i> /Meŋan paI niku/ 'You eat <i>pai</i> '	First (eat first)
4	<i>Pah</i> /pah/	Affirmation of invitation		<i>Pah ram lapah/pah ram lapah</i> /' <i>pah</i> we go'	Let's
5	<i>Kidah</i> /kidah/	Coercion	Coercive	<i>Laju kidah</i> /laju kidah/ 'Continue <i>kidah</i> '	-
6	<i>Ai</i> /aI/	Trifle	Trifling	<i>Ai, niku na gunjor</i> /aI, niku na gunjor/ <i>Ai</i> , you are that stupid	-
7	<i>Bak</i> /ba?/	Sign of Comment	Cold anger	<i>Bak niku, nayah cawa</i> /ba? Niku najah fawa/ <i>bak</i> you talk a lot	-
8	<i>Nah</i> /nah/	Affirmation of assumption	Anger	<i>Nah, nyandang niku!</i> /nah pandaŋ niku/ ' <i>nah</i> , you know!'	So
9	<i>Pun</i> /pu:n/	Showing respect of politeness to others	Calmness and joy	<i>Numpang cawa pun</i> /numpaŋ fawa pun/ 'Let me talk <i>pun</i> '	Please
10	<i>Aguy</i> /aguI/	Showing feeling shocked or surprise	Joy, sad, shocked	<i>Aguy, nyak kuruk Tv</i> /aguI ja? kuku? tipi/' <i>Aguy</i> , I am on the TV	Wow

Table 2. Lampungese word phatic

No	Phatic	Function	Emotion	Example	English Closest Comparison
1	<i>Gawoh</i> /gawoh/	Affirmation of suggestion	Neutral, joy, and anger	<i>Sai hina gawoh</i> /saI hina gawoh/ 'This one <i>gawoh</i> '	Brother
2	<i>Puari</i> /puaki/	Substitution of greeting to a man	Joy, neutral.	<i>Yu puari</i> /ju puaki/ 'Yes <i>puaki</i> '	

Table 3. Lampungese phrase phatic

No	Phatic	Function	Emotion	Example	English Closest Comparison
1	<i>Api kabar!!api pakas/</i>	Greeting	Neutral and joy	<i>Wah, kabar?/wah, kabarκ/ 'wah, api kabar?</i>	<i>api</i> How are you! <i>api</i>

### Combined Phatic

*Yu pah kidah* is a combined phatic that comes from three one word and two particles phatic, *yu + pah + kidah*. *Yu* means 'yes' that function to agree to an invitation/suggestion/command in this case. While *pah* and *kidah* are phatic that function as an affirmation of invitation and coercion as explained on the table.1 Based on the functions, this combined phatic functions as agreeing to something defenselessly with neutral or joy emotion. Here is an example of the use of the phatic:

- A: *Pah ram mengan wah! wat dilan* 'Pah we eat wah! there is shrimp paste'  
/pah ram mənʌn wah, wat dilan/  
B: *Yu pah kidah* 'Yu pah kidah'  
/ju pah kidah/.

Another Lampungese combined phatic is *ai wuy* which comes from particle phatic *ai + wuy*. Different from their single function, this combination creates a new function. This phatic is used to show sympathy or pity for someone. Below is an example

- A: *Bapakni kak makdok lagi* 'His father is passed away'  
/bapa?ni ka? Ma?do? lagi/  
B: *Ai wuy, mati sedih ya* 'Ai wuy, he must be in sorrow'  
/ai wuI, mati sədih ja/

### CONCLUSION

Phatic expressions in Lampung are formed into four classes. The class of combined phatic is unique since it adds the discovery of phatic forms while Kridalaksana [10] previously lists only those three types; particle, word, and phrase. In Lampungese, the phatic function differently one to another so it must be selective when using it, especially for those which emotionally represent the anger.

Reranta [3] and Qodriani [11] mentions that there is a phatic geh /geh/ in Lampungese Indonesian (Indonesian that has own variety spoken by people in Lampung) usually uttered in Lampung which is influenced by Lampungese. By this paper, I agree with the statement that it is uttered by people there when they speak using Indonesia. While the declaration that it is influenced by Lampungese is rejected by me since the phatic is not found in Lampungese but the Indonesian spoken by people in Lampung province only. This claim is supported by Maladi [12]. In her research, he finds phatic geh truly comes from Sundanese, uttered by Sundanese people who migrate to Lampung. Other phatics with the same cases as geh are atuh /atuh/, and jing /jin/ [12]. On the other hand, people use the phatic kidah in Lampungese to express the similar function and emotion of the phatic geh. It is for sure that more details can be found if deeper is done. This, however, has enriched the knowledge about Lampungese.

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