

Language Attitudes toward Bahasa Indonesia and Bahasa Betawi in Jakarta

Bahasa Indonesia is the sole official national language of Indonesia and plays a central role in shaping national identity within a highly multilingual society. In Jakarta, the country's capital and a major center of internal migration, this linguistic diversity presents significant challenges to the maintenance of regional languages, particularly Bahasa Betawi, the regional language of Jakarta which, according to Permandani/Siregar (2023), is increasingly regarded as endangered. Ongoing demographic changes and intense contact with migrant populations have placed pressure on the Betawi community, leading especially among younger generations to a shift toward Standard Indonesian and contemporary popular language varieties.

Against this background, this study investigates language attitudes toward Bahasa Indonesia and Bahasa Betawi in contemporary Jakarta. Using a case-study approach, the research draws on empirical data collected from Indonesian language teacher education students in Jakarta. As future educators, this group is of particular importance, as they not only acquire and teach the national language but also mediate and reproduce language ideologies, functioning as what Blommaert (1999) terms *Ideology Brokers*.

Methodologically, the study adopts a mixed-methods approach, combining surveys and semi-structured interviews to capture both explicit language attitudes and underlying ideological orientations. A modified version of the Language Attitudes Scale–Student Form (LASS) developed by Li/Wei (2022) is employed to examine cognitive, affective, and behavioural dimensions of language attitudes. The study contributes to broader discussions on language maintenance, language shift, and the role of education in multilingual urban contexts.

Publication bibliography

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