Reconstruction of Tolaki and Moronene Language Vocal Protophonemes

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Abstract - The Tolaki language and the Moronene languages are part of the Austronesian language group. The reconstruction is done based on the hypothesis of a genetic relationship and regularity. Historical comparison methods were used in this study. The purpose of the reconstruction was to obtain accurate results on the assessment of language relations. It is deemed necessary to reconstruct the proto in order to seek the evidence of the retention and innovation that occur in the two respective languages. From the reconstruction, several findings and proofs were generated, which among others are TlM vocal proto-phonemes: *a, *i, *u, *e, and *o; PTlMr *a are found at the beginning, middle and the end of the word. The proto-phonemes are 1) *a (a-, -a-, -a)> Tl, Mr a, 2) PTlMr *i (i- -i- -i)> Tl, Mr i, 3) PTlMr *u (u -, -u-, -u)> Tl, Mr u, 4) PTlMr *e (e-, -e-, e-)> Tl, Mr e, and 5) PTlMr *o (o-, -o-, o-)> Tl Mr o.
Keywords: reconstruction, Tolaki language, Moronene language

1. Introduction

Efforts for studying, mapping and categorizing languages in Southeast Sulawesi have been carried out by several previous linguists, such as Pattiasina (1981) supported by Mahmud, Haddode, Djirong, Murmahyat, (1995) Moronene language clarifying that its status equals the Mekongga language, Konawe language as dialects Tolaki. Kaseng (1987), followed by Mead (1995) classified languages in the plains of Central and Southeast Sulawesi into Tolaki Languages groups. In fact, the results of the Mead grouping were then used as a benchmark by other researchers as a reference in their effort to determine the status of languages in Southeast Sulawesi. The grouping carried out by Lauder et al. (2000) also showed different results, i.e. Moronene was a subgroup of the Tolaki language.

The status of the Moronene language in the language classification conducted by Mead's qualitative method showed that the Moronene language has a cognitive relationship with the

Bungku language which is in the subgroup of Kulisusu language. This result has risen a great doubt as seen from the geographical locations of the Bungku and Moronene language that are far apart. besides, the natural conditions do not allow the phenomenon to happen. On the other hand, the geographical location allows the possibility of the occurrence of a high cognitive relationship between the Tolaki language and the Bungku language. This is because both languages are located next to the one another. Furthermore, the very high intensity of the population relation makes it possible to assume that the two languages are related.

Following up Mead's step, Tambunan (2005) focused his research on the division of the Kulisusu subgroup. The result of his research is in contrast to revelation that Mead's statement Moronene, Wawonii, and Kulisusu is a subgroup of the same language. Lexicostatistic calculation result shows very low relationship and all three are different. These different findings were assumed to be caused by among other the different use of vocabulary lists, different data materials, different method of the data analysis, and the improper selection of informants.

Based on the above reasons, it is necessary to conduct a more significant study of the status and position of languages in Southeast Sulawesi. In order to obtain accurate results on the assessment of language relations, the language needs to be reconstructed, especially proto-vocal, to check the evidence to retention and innovation that occurs in these languages. The results of this study are expected to compile and determine kinship relations of languages in Indonesia in general and languages in Southeast Sulawesi in particular.

2. Concepts and theories

A Grouping of related language is an effort in determining the position of a language based on the structure of kinship or genetic structure, Bynon (1979: 71). Grouping of related language can be carried out by of reconstruction of the proverb. This aims to clarify the kinship, especially on aspect of the correspondent on the word phoneme which means the same.

There are two basic assumptions put forward by Jeffers and Lehiste (1979:7) in reconstructing. This hypothesis attempts to explain the similarity of words, both in form and meaning with the aim of proving that these languages originated from the same proto, and the hypothesis of regularity is in the form of regular sound change in words from related languages that are the characteristic of the proto language.

3.   Reconstruction of Tolaki and Moronene Language Vocal Protophonemes

The proof of PTMR proto-phonemes is generated by the process of finding linkages and the combination of positional distributional phonemes. Diachronic changes are formulated by looking at the combination of vowel phonemes as follows:

The discovery and proof of vocal TLCM proto-phonemes: * a, * i, * u, * e, and * o in the initial position of the word, middle of the word, and the end of the word can be explained as follows.

1)   PTlMr *a *a (a-, -a-, -a) > Tl, Mr a

Tabel 1. The intial position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*ato	/ato/	/ato/	'atap'
*awu	/awu/	/awu/	'debu'
*api	/api/	/api/	'api'
*ahu	/ahu/	/ahu/	'asap'

Data in Tabel 1 shows that vowel /a/ as a distinctive sound with vowel, -high, +low, +back and, -round characteristics in the initial position of the word in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *a.

PTlMr *a at the initial position was found in Tolaki and Moronene languages. Phoneme /a/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from the PTlMr phoneme *a. Thus, the PTlMr *a phoneme in the initial position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ #

Table 2. The Middle Position Word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*mata	/mata/	/mata/	'mata'
*dahu	/dahu/	/dahu/	'anjing'
*manu	/manu/	/manu/	'ayam'

Data in table 2 shows that vowel /a/ as a distinctive sound with vowel, -high, +low, +back and, -round characteristics in the middle position of the word in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *a.

PTlMr *a in the middle position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. The phoneme /a/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from the PTlMr phoneme *a. thus in the PTlMr *a phoneme in the middle position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ K – K

Table 3. The Final Word Position

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
* ina	/ina/	/ina/	'ibu'
*kaNga	/kaNka/	/kaNka/	'laba-laba'
*wua	/wua/	/wua/	'buah'

Data in table 3 shows that vowel /a/ as a distinctive sound with vowel, -high, +low, +back and, -round characteristics in the end position of the word in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *a.

PTlMr *a at the final position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /a/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language come from the PTlMr phoneme *a. Thus, the PTlMr *a phoneme in the final position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ - #

2) PTlMr *i (i- -i- -i) > Tl, Mr i

Table 4. The initial position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*ika	/ika/	/ica/	'ikan'
*iku	/iku/	/ici/	'ekor'
*ie	/ie/	/ia/	'dia'
*iNgo:	/iNgo:/	/ico:/	'engkau'

The data above shows that vowel /i/ as a sound distinctive with vowel features +high, -low, -back, and -round in the initial position of the word in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *i.

PTlMr *i at the initial position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. The phoneme /i/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from the PTlMr *i phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *i phoneme in the initial position of the word persists and undergoes

a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ # -

Table 5. The middle position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*tia	/tia/	/tia/	'perut'
*kila	/kila/	/kila/	'kilat'
*kire	/kire/	/kire/	'alis'

Data in table 5 shows that vowel /i/ as a distinctive sound with vowel features + high, low, -back and -round in the middle position of the word in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *i.

PTlMr * i in the middle position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. The phoneme /i/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language come from the PTlMr *i phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *i phoneme in the middle position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ K – K

Table 6. The Final Word Position

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*Nisi	/Nisi/	/Nisi/	'gigi'
*pani	/pani/	/pani/	'sayap
*tahi	/tahi/	/tahi/	'laut'

Data in table 6 shows that vowel /i/ as a distinctive sound with vowel characteristics + high, -low, -back, and -round in the final position of words in the Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *i.

PTlMr *i at the final position was found in both languages namely Tolaki language and Moronene language. The phoneme /i/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language come from the PTlMr *i phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *i phoneme at the end of the word position persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ - #

3) PTlMr *u (u-, -u-, -u) > Tl, Mr u

Table 8. The initial position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*uhu	/uhu/	/uhu/	'susu'
*iku	/iku/	/ici/	'ekor'
*hujan	/usa/	/usa/	'hujan'

Data in table 8 shows that vowel /u/ as a distinctive sound with vowel +high, -low, +back, and +round characters in the initial position of the word in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr *u.

PTlMr *u in the initial position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /u/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *u. Thus the PTlMr *u phoneme in the initial position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ # -

Table 9. The middle position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*wuku	/wuku/	/wuku/	'tulang'
*uhu	/uhu/	/uhu/	'susu'
*wua	/wua/	/wua/	'buah'

Data in table 9 shows that vowel /u/ as a distinctive sound with the characteristics of vowel +high, -low, +back, and +round in the middle position of the word in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr *u.

PTlMr *u in the middle position is found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /u/ n the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *u. Thus, the PTlMr *u phoneme in the middle position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ K - K

Table 10. The final Word Position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*dahu	/dahu/	/dahu/	'dahu'
*manu	/manu/	/manu/	'ayam'
*wulu	/wulu/	/wulu/	'bulu'

Data in table 10 shows that vowels /u/ as distinctive sound with vowel +high, -low, +back, and +round characters in the final word position in Tolaki language and Moronene language comes from PTlMr *u.

PTlMr * u at the final position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /u/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *u. Thus the PTlMr *u phoneme in the final position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ - #

4)   PTlMr *e (e-, -e-, e-) > Tl, Mr e

Table 11. The iinitial position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*eNe	/eNe/	/eNe/	'hidung'
* elo	/elo/	/elo/	'lidah'
*ela	/ela/	/ela/	'adik dari istri'

Data in table 11 shows that vowel /e/ as distinctive sound with vowel features -high, -low, -back, and, -round in the initial position of the word in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTMr *e.

PTlMr *e at the initial position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /e/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *e. Thus, the PTlMr *e phoneme in the initial position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /e/ # -

Table 12. The Middle Position Word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*seu	/seu/	/seu/	'jarum'
*keu	/keu/	/keu/	'jika'
*suere	/suere/	/suere/	'lain'

Data in table 12 shows that the vowel /e/ as a sound is distinctive with vowel characteristics -high, -low, -back, and -round in the middle position of the word in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr * e.

PTlMr *e in the middle position is found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /e/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *e. Thus, the PTlMr *e phoneme in the middle position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /e/ K – K

Table 13. The Final Word Position

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*mate	/mate/	/mate/	'mati'
*owose	/owose/	/owose/	'besar'
*ase	/ase/	/ase/	'dagu'

Data in table 13 shows that vowel /e/ as a distinctive sound with vowel features -high, -low, -back, and, -round in the final position of the word in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTLM * e.

PTlMr *e at the final position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /e/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language is derived from the PTlMr phoneme *e. Thus, the PTlMr *e phoneme in the final position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /e/ - #

5) PTlMr *o (o-, -o-, o-) > Tl Mr o

Table 14. initial position of the word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*otolu	/otolu/	/otolu/	'tiga'
*owose	/owose/	/owose/	'besar'
*oleo	/oleo/	/oleo/	'hari'
*ono:	/ono:/	/ono:/	'enam'

Data in table 14 shows that the vowel /o/ as a sound is distinctive with the characteristics of vowels -high, -low, +back, and +round in the initial position of words in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr *o.

PTlMr *o at the initial position was found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /o/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from the PTlMr *o phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *o phoneme in the initial position of the word persists and undergoes

a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. These vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ # -

Table 15. The Middle Position Word

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*roNa	/roNa/	/roNa/	'dengan'
*monahu	/monahu/	/monahu/	'memasak'
*momile	/momile/	/momile/	'memilih'

Data in table 15 shows that the vowel /o/ as distinctive sound with the characteristics of vowels -high, -low, +back, and +round in the middle position of words in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr *o.

PTlMr *o in the middle position is found in both languages namely Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phoneme /o/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from the PTlMr *o phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *o phoneme in the middle position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ K – K

Table 16. The Final Word Position

PTlMr	Tolaki	Moronene	Gloss
*elo	/elo/	/elo/	'lidah'
*ato	/ato/	/ato/	'atap'
*lako	/lako/	/lako/	'jalan'

Data in table 16 shows that the vowel /o/ as a sound is distinctive with the characteristics of vowels -high, -low, +back, and +round in the final position of words in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language comes from PTlMr * o.

PTlMr *o at the end of the middle is found in Tolaki language and Moronene language. Phonem /o/ in the Tolaki language and the Moronene language come from the PTlMr *o phoneme. Thus, the PTlMr *o phoneme in the final position of the word persists and undergoes a joint retention in Tolaki and Moronene languages. The vowel phonemes are reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ K - K

4. Findings

From the reconstruction, several findings and proofs of vocal TLCM protophonemes: *a, *i, *u, *e, and *o PTlMr *a are found at the beginning of the word, middle of the word and end of the word. Proto phoneme 1) *a (a-, -a-, -a)> Tl, Mr a, in the initial position of the word can be

reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ #, in the middle position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ K - K, and at the end position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /a/ - #. 2) PTlMr *i (i- -i- -i)> Tl, Mr i, in the initial position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ # -, in the middle position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ K - K, and at the end position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /i/ - #. 3) PTlMr *u (u-, -u-, -u)> Tl, Mr u, in the initial position of the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ # -, in the middle position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ K - K, and at the end position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /u/ - #. 4) PTlMr *e (e-, -e-, e-) > Tl, Mr e, in the initial position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /e/ # -, in the middle position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * e, and at the end of the word position can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /e/ - #. 5) PTlMr *o (o-, -o-, o-)> Tl Mr o, in the initial position of the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ # -, in the middle position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ K - K, and at the end position the word can be reconstructed as PTlMr * /o/ K - K.

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