

THE MEANING OF SMOOTHING IN BIMA LANGUAGE: A STUDY OF NATURAL SEMANTIC METALANGUAGE

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Article Info	Abstract
Article History Received: April 2024 Revised: June 2024 Published: July 2024	<i>Bima language verbs constitute one of the primary and complex word classes, pivotal in speech for their ability to determine the presence of arguments and assign semantic roles to each accompanying argument. This research aims to elucidate the configuration of meaning and explication of the verb 'refine' in the Bima language. The data source comprises oral data collected from native speakers in Bima Regency, West Southeast Nusa. Data collection employed the listening method and note-taking techniques. The analysis utilized the Natural Semantic Metalanguage Theory (NSM), applying the equivalent method to analyze semantic structures and meaning components, and the distribution method to examine semantic roles. The findings reveal that the verbs in the Bima lexicon associated with 'refine' are categorized as action verbs, exhibiting exponents of incompositional polysemy such as 'doing' and 'happening'. This indicates that while the verb 'refine' maintains a consistent core meaning, it encompasses specific nuances critical for accurate language use. The verb 'refine' in Bima is mapped to several semantic domains: entity, process, tool, and result. It encompasses a range of meanings expressed by the lexicons: Soro (shove), kampao (smooth), ramba (sharpen), goso, soso (rub), kaniu (smooth), saruncu (to grind), pana`a (chewing), khasbi (pounding), kiru (crushing), gili (grinding), ndina (stomping), ledi (working), and mbaju (pounding). This research represents the first comprehensive study of the 'refine' verb in the Bima language, providing crucial insights into its semantic structure and usage.</i>
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INTRODUCTION

The reciprocal relationship between humans is talking and understanding. When someone speaks, the person they are talking to will understand what is being said. This is because there is meaning in what someone said (Devianty, 2017; Gordon, 2011). Empirical studies of meaning are contained in the Natural Semantic Metalanguage theory, which is hereafter abbreviated to NSM. NSM is a theory that combines the logical-philosophical tradition in the study of meaning with a typological approach to the study of language, and with broad-based empirical cross-linguistic inquiry (Goddard, 2021; Lantowa et. al., 2017). NSM theory introduces a term called semantic structure. Semantic structure is the original meaning configuration (Goddard, 2017). Understanding the semantic structure will help describe the natural meaning of a language. In general, the object studied using NSM theory is a verb. This is because the verb in the sentence shows action and still has meaning even though it stands alone (Goddard, dan Wierzbicka, 2021; Arnawa, 2017).

Recently, the study of the meaning of verbs in languages in the world, especially local languages in each country, has increasingly attracted the attention of linguists. One of the studies on meaning involving verbs is synonymy, the relationship of the same meaning between verbs which are different dictions (Wijana 2021; Lin, and Chung, 2021). The term synonyms

in the meaning of verbs needs to be reviewed and redefined considering that there are differences in the basic meanings of words which (perhaps up until now) have been considered synonymous, or similarities in the basic meanings of words which (perhaps up until now) have been considered non-synonymous. The assumption that the verb 'smooth' needs to be reviewed (Adawiyah et. al., 2022; Hajar, 2016).

From the explanation of the Bima language verb above, this research will examine the meaning of the Bima language verb smooth. Bima is very rich in diverse social culture and is almost known throughout the world. Apart from culture, the creativity of the ancient Bima people was also very varied and had its own unique way of carrying out various daily activities (Adawiyah, 2021; Lailiyah and Wijayanti, 2022). One of them is in various actions that are classified as smoothing verbs. The use of the verb to smooth has various meanings when viewed from the user's point of view, such as when the user of this verb smooths something with certain tools, certain movements, and/or certain purposes which will later differentiate the meaning (Wahid, 2019; Goldin-Meadow and Brentari, 2017).

Based on these thoughts, researchers were inspired to conduct scientific research regarding the meaning of the verb action of smoothing in the Bima language (Munawir, 2018). In studying meaning, researchers need semantic theory as an umbrella theory in this research. With semantic theory, we can explore the meaning contained in a word, such as the meaning of the verb smooth in the Bima language (Adawiyah, 2024). This verb is interesting to study because when used in society (Bima) it tends to have the same meaning but actually contains certain meanings that can be differentiated. This idea is directly proportional to the opinion expressed by Sudipa (2021) that action verbs with polysemy incompositional exponents DO and HAPPEN are based on: the tool, the movement model, the part of the entity being treated, the final result the agent wants to achieve, including the mood 'psychological state of the perpetrator'. Therefore, the verb to smooth in the Bima language is an action verb which also has a certain meaning that can differentiate it. This research aims to find out various types of euphemistic verbs used by the local Bima community in communicating and function as supporters of the national language, namely Indonesian. There have been many previous studies related to regional language verbs using the NSA theory, but this is the first time to refine verbs using this theory. This is the basis for us as researchers to study more deeply the verbs in the Bima language (Adawiyah et al., 2023; Budasi, 2015; Kadri dan Wahid, 2021; Kastner, 2020).

Natural Semantic Metalanguage

This research uses a relevant theory to examine this problem, namely the Natural Semantic Metalingual theory (Goddard, 2014; Nduru et. al., 2021). This theory can of course also be used to explain the meaning of Bima language verbs, one of which is the verb "to smooth". In this theory, the explanation of meaning is framed in metalanguage which originates from natural language. This explanation can automatically be understood by all native speakers of the language concerned (Adawiyah and Syakur, 2022; Maulidan, 2020). There are several reasons why the NSM theory was chosen because it has advantages, namely (1) the NSM theory is designed to explain all meanings, both lexical meaning, grammatical meaning and illocutionary meaning. Of course, this theory can be used to explain the meaning of a verb. (2) supports the NSM theory, believing in the principle that the natural condition of a language is to maintain one form of meaning and one meaning for one form; (3) in the theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage, the explanation of meaning is framed in metalanguage which originates from natural language. This explanation can be understood by all native speakers of the language concerned (Erawati and Sulibra, 2017; Ndruru, 2020).

The theory of Natural Semantic Metalanguage was first pioneered by Wierzbicka and then redeveloped by colleagues such as Cliff Goddard, Felix Ameka, Hilary Chappell, and Jean

Harkins. Wierzbicka and his colleagues attempted to identify the core meaning of a word, namely the simplest meaning of a word, using a single criterion, namely reductive paraphrasing, which means the meaning of complex words is explained with simple words (Wierzbicka, 2007). In this theory, the meaning of every word or every expression can be expressed, even though the meaning is subjective and interpreted according to context, the true meaning has a "general core" which can be described using appropriate methods (Rodríguez & Goddard, 2013).

In this paper it seems that the original meaning is relevant and deserves to be explained in detail as a tool for dissecting BB state verb data. One of the main assumptions of NSM theory is that meaning cannot be described without a set of original meanings. This assumption is based on the understanding that the meaning of a lexicon is a configuration of the original meaning, not determined by other meanings in the lexicon. Original meaning is a set of meanings that cannot change (Nduru et. al, 2021; Goddard, 1996) because humans inherit them from birth. This meaning is a reflection of the basic human mind. The original meaning can be explicated from natural language which is the only way to represent meaning. The explication of meaning must include the meaning of words that are intuitively related or at least have the same field of meaning, and the meaning of these words is analyzed based on their components (Wierzbicka, 1996; Rahman, 2020).

It is hoped that a set of original meanings can explain complex meanings into simpler ones without having to go around in circles. Research using NSM theory has been carried out on many languages in the world. The following description is an analysis of Natural Semantic Metalanguage (NSM) which is designed to explain all meanings, both lexical meaning, illocutionary meaning and grammatical meaning. The data studied is the verb "to smooth" in the Bima language which has its own meaning and has very distinctive cultural values and some are only found in the Bima language (Adawiyah, 2024).

RESEARCH METHOD

This research includes qualitative research. The qualitative method is a research method based on the philosophy of postpositivism, used to examine the scientific conditions (experiments) of researchers as the key instrument, (Sugiyono, 2015). According to Hennink et. al., (2020) Qualitative research is research to answer problems that require in-depth understanding in the context of the time and situation concerned, carried out naturally and appropriately according to objective conditions in the field without manipulation and the type of data collected, especially qualitative data.

Research Design

The research data consists of primary and secondary data. The data sources are three (1) spoken utterances, spoken utterances containing verbs in the form of lexicons and clauses of the Bima language in several natural speech settings observed during the interviews. (2) written data, and (3) language intuition as a source of spoken data. Primary data is oral data that is verified by key informants and secondary data is written data. Writing data was obtained from a number of books, dictionaries and stories in Bima. The position of secondary data is as a comparison of oral data that has been collected from a number of key informants used by the Bima community (Adawiyah and Syakur, 2022; Sugiyono, 2016).

His research will describe the results of the analysis of the meaning of fine Bima language verbs from the perspective of MSA theory by applying the concepts of relevant original meaning and incompositional polysemy. In collecting data using the observation method and close attention techniques. The translation was assisted by the Bima-Indonesian dictionary using the translational translation method and glossing technique. Data analysis uses the matching method to analyze semantic structures and meaning components, as well as the agih method to analyze semantic roles. In the final stage, namely presenting the results of data analysis using informal methods.

Instruments

The research instrument is a list of Bima language verb questions, namely the verb to smooth in Indonesian which is translated into Bima sentences. There are three methods used, namely, the introspective method, the listening method, and the speaking method. The introspection method was applied because the researcher is a native Bima language speaker. In other words, researchers already have linguistic competence regarding the Bima language. In this case, researchers can apply their knowledge in the Bima language to make it easier to assess research data. Listening methods include advanced techniques in the form of competently involved listening techniques, free listening techniques, note-taking, and expert note-taking. At this stage the researcher will listen to Bima's narrative in daily communication to obtain data. Advanced Methods Advanced methods are also called interview methods. The interview or speaking method aims to find forms that behave syntactically and prove the correctness of the data obtained regarding the syntactic behavior of Bima language verbs.

Data Analysis

There are two techniques for presenting the results of data analysis, namely the formal method and the informal method. This study uses one method, namely the informal method. The application of the informal method used in descriptions with strings of words, usually so that the explanation seems detailed and unraveled, so that the meaning of the verb can be identified. Descriptive presentation of the results of the study of Bima language verbs is expected to be able to provide a detailed explanation. This method seems promising because in general it has been used in qualitative research. This research uses qualitative methods such as ethnography, case studies, document/text studies, natural observation, focused interviews, phenomenology, grounded theory, historical studies (Sudaryanto, 2015).

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Verb smooth

Action verbs in the Bima language with fine nosies have their own characteristics which are based on three things, including: Tools, which are something used by (X) to carry out the action (this tool is used based on the entity that wants to be treated). Movement model, is a way for the agent to make the action he is carrying out easier (sometimes certain movements are made to speed up an action from the agent, so that it can save time), and The type of entity that is being treated, this entity is something that the agent wants to give an action to. agent for a specific purpose.

The following provides an explanation of various data findings which are classified as smoothing action verbs in the Bima language:

(1-1) Soro `shove`

La Ahmad wunga soro na sarae labo la Hamid ese uma re
shove Ahmad is pushing sand with Ahmad on top of the house
'Ahmad is sifting sand with Hamid in the house above'.

Shove (Soro) activity is an action carried out by a person to smooth something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change from an entity that is still in the form of coarse grains to a smooth entity using a smoothing tool, which is called panyidian. The shove verb is usually done by shaking the singing tool repeatedly to get the best/very smooth results. According to Sudipa (2023), this action verb can be mapped to 'X does it in a certain way'. The verb shove is realized with the entities: sand, rice and sticky rice (for the entity rice and sticky rice refers to an action of grinding to produce flour).

Explication of the verb soro
At that time X did something to Y
Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y
X does it a certain way (wiggle)
X does it with certain tools (shove, sieve)

X does something several times
Y becomes something (subtle)
X wants this
X does something like this

(1-2) **Kampao** `smooth`

La Hami labo lenga doho na wunga kampao na o`o ru`u ndawi kai na wele
Hamid and all his friends are grinding bamboo to make kites
'Si Hamid and his friends are rubbing/smoothing bamboo wood to make kites'.

The kampoa activity 'rubbing' is an action carried out by someone to smooth the surface of something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change in its surface, namely from a rough surface to a smoother one. The verb kampoa is usually done by rubbing two bricks repeatedly to smooth the surface (Goddard, 2017). According to Sudipa (2023), this action verb can be mapped to 'X does something several times'. The verb kampoa is realized with the entities: wood, bamboo.

Kampoa verb explication
At that time X did something to Y
Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y
X does it a certain way (swipes two bricks)
X does something several times
Y the surface becomes something (smooth)
X wants this
X does something like this

(1-3) **Ramba** `hone`

Ama wunga ramba na piso di sambele kai na janga
Dad is sharpening a knife to slaughter a chicken
Dad is sharpening/refining a knife to slaughter a chicken'.

Ramba activity is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change from a rough entity to a smoother entity using a smoothing tool called panyangihan 'sharpen'. Verba ramba is usually done by repeatedly rubbing the knife blade against the sharpener to get sharp/very smooth results. The verb ramba is realized with the entities: kitchen knife, blakas 'machete', sickle 'sickle', and other sharp objects similar to knives (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022).

Ramba verb explication

At that time X did something to Y
Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it in a certain way (rubs blades together)
X performs with a certain tool (sharpening)
X does something several times
Y becomes something (subtle)
X wants this
X does something like this

(1-4) **goso, Soso** `rub`

Ina La Wau na ahali goso wadu permata
Si Wau's mother is very skilled at gemstone polishing
'Si Wau's mother is very skilled at sharpening/smoothing stones
ring jewel'.

Rub activity is an action carried out by someone to smooth the surface of something, almost the same as *nyangih* but with different movements and tools. Described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change on its surface, namely from a rough surface to a smoother one using a special sharpening tool. The verb *goso* is usually done by rubbing the gemstone on a grinder using a certain technique and doing it repeatedly to get a very smooth and shiny stone surface (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024). You can use your hands or you can also use a grinding machine. The verb *nyangling* is realized with entities: gemstones, diamonds, and other types of precious stones.

Explication of the verb rub

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it a certain way (rubs gemstones)

X performs with a specific tool (special sharpening)

X does something several times

Y the surface becomes something (smooth)

X wants this X does something like this

(1-5) Kaniu `smooth`

Kau ja pu sa`e mu kaniu tembo ede ni

Tell your brother to scrub the wall

'Tell your brother to scrub the walls to make something (fine).'

The activity of 'rubbing smooth' is an action carried out by someone to smooth the surface of something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change on its surface, namely from a rough surface to something (smooth) using a tool called a 'carpentry scoop' can also be done on rice fields that have just been plowed. The verb *kaniu* is usually done by rubbing a ladle on the surface of the terrace covered with cement mixture slowly and regularly, to get good/smooth results (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024). The verb *kaniu* is realized with entities: terraces, walls, various objects resulting from carpentry activities (covered with cement for the outer layer), and soil in rice fields

Explication of the verb kaniu

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it a certain way (rubs gently)

X does it with a certain tool (carpentry hammer)

X does something with something (slowly)

Y the surface becomes something (smooth)

X wants this

X does something like this

(1-6) Saruncu `shrink`

La Sirajudi na ngau romo saruncu

The clever Sirajudin is very receptive

'Sirajudin is very clever at planing/smoothing wooden pillars'

The scrubbing activity is an action carried out by someone to smooth the surface of something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change on its surface, namely from a rough surface to something (smooth) with using a tool called a *panyerutan* 'shrink'. The *shrink* verb is usually done by repeatedly rubbing the *sanderutan* on the surface of the wood that you want to smooth, slowly and regularly, to get

good/smooth results (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024). The saruncu verb is realized with the entities: Wooden Pillars, Wooden Doors, Wooden Windows, and other man-made objects made from wood and other wooden materials.

Saruncu verb explication

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it in a certain way (rubbing regularly)

X performs with a specific tool (cramp)

X does something several times

X does something with something (slowly)

Y the surface becomes something (smooth)

X wants this

X does something like this

(1-7) Pana`a `chew`

Nene Rahma wunga Pana`a na mama di sampuru kaina ana dou ma to`i

Grandma Rahmah is chewing betel to spray on small children

'Grandma Rahmah is chewing betel mixed with cloves to spray on the little child's body to make him warm'.

The activity of 'chewing' is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who carries out an action on an entity (Y), such as coriander, betel, rice, galangal. So Y experiences a change from an entity that is still in the form of coarse granules to a smooth entity using the teeth as a smoothing tool. The verb pana'a is usually done by repeatedly chewing using the teeth to get a smooth result (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024). The verb 'chewing' is realized with the entities: betel, coriander, rice, galangal.

Explication of the verb pana`a

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it in a certain way (chews)

X performs with certain tools (teeth)

X does something several times

Y becomes something (subtle)

X wants this

X does something like this

(1-8) kakubi `pounding`

Tutu kakubi ja pu bongi ede nocu ede

Gently pound the rice in the mortar

'Please pound the rice in the mortar with a mortar so that it becomes fine flour'.

The activity of Kakubi 'pounding' is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change from an entity that is still in the form of coarse grains to a fine entity using a tool called a mortar 'nocu'. The Kakubi verb is usually done by repeatedly pounding/moving, to get good/smooth results. The verb Kakubi is realized with the entities: sticky rice, spices, meat, rice.

Kakubi verb explication

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it a certain way (mashing)

X does it with a certain tool (lumpang)
X does something several times
Y becomes something (subtle)
X wants this X does something like this

(1-9) kiru `grind`

'La Hadija, kiru ja pu lo`i ese wawo tuta mu re
'Hadijah ulek, please put medicine on your head
'Hadijah asks you to help grind the spices that are on top of your head'.

The activity of 'kneading' is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change from an entity that is still in the form of coarse grains to a fine entity using a tool called a mortar and a panguligan stone 'pipesan stone'. The kneading verb is usually done by repeatedly pounding/moving, to get good/smooth results. The verb kiru is almost similar to ngucuk, but there are far fewer of them. kneading verbs are realized with the entities: sticky rice, rice, herbs, spices. Onions, garlic, tomatoes, and other

Left verb explication
At that time X did something to Y
Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y
X does it a certain way (mashing)
X does it with certain tools (flat stone, mortar)
X does something several times
Y becomes something (subtle)
X wants this
X does something like this

(1-10) Gili/grind

Anae, lao gili ja pu bongi da rasa bou ka
Son, go grind some rice in a new area
'Son, please go grind the rice to make flour in the area called the new area, the area at the very end of the village'.

Grinding activity is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it experiences a change from an entity that is still in shape to a smooth entity using a grinding tool. Grinding is usually done by grinding repeatedly, to get smooth results (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024). The verb gili is realized with the entity: rice, a spice that is ground so that it becomes fine and can be used to season meat dishes and rice is used to make cakes into flour.

Grinding verb explication
At that time X did something to Y
Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y
X does it a certain way (grind)
X performs with a specific tool (milling tool, machine)
X does something several times
Y becomes something (subtle)
X wants this X does something like this

(1-11) Ndina/ step on

Ina ta gombo, na tenggo au ku ndina fare ese nggaro
Ta Gombo's mother stepped firmly on the rice in the field
'Ta Gombo's mother was strong in stepping on the rice in the field

Step on activity of 'stepping' is an action carried out by someone to smooth something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it undergoes a change from an entity that is still in rough form, to a smooth entity using foot tools. Verb Step on is usually done by moving the foot to the right and left on a rice object that still has its stem, repeatedly rotating it with the foot so that the rice which still has small stems is separated from the stem so that only the rice grains are visible (Adawiyah & Syakur, 2022; Adawiyah, 2024; Arnawa, 2017). Verb Step on realized with entities: rice, spices that still have small stems.

Explication of the verb Step on

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it in a certain way by repeatedly stamping his feet

X performs with certain tools (feet)

X does something several times

Y becomes something (subtle)

X wants this X does something like this

(1-12) *Ledi*/ working

The working activity 'plowing the fields' is an action carried out by someone to soften something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it undergoes a change from an entity that is still hard so that it becomes a smooth entity using tools. cow/buffalo. The verb ledi is usually done by lifting the hwan on its shoulders with a tool shaped like a cau, then the buffalo walks around the ground in the rice fields so that the repeated movements of the animal carrying the cau make the ground it steps on become soft and smooth (Adawiyah, 2024; Arnawa, 2017). This land will usually be planted with rice. Repeat this movement to get smooth results. The verb working is realized with the entity: rice fields.

Explication of the verb working

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it in a certain way (circles the rice fields with a cau on his horn)

X does it with certain tools (cau tool, buffalo)

X does something several times

Y becomes something (subtle)

X wants this X does something like this

(1-13) *Mbaju* ` pounding`

La Isa wunga mbaju na bongi

Aisyah is pounding rice

Mbaju activity is an action carried out by someone to refine something, described as an agent (X) who takes action on an entity (Y) so that it undergoes a change from an entity that is still in shape to a smooth entity using a mortar. The mbaju verb is usually done by moving the pestle into the mortar repeatedly to get smooth results. The rice will turn into rice ready to be cooked. The movements carried out are from top to bottom, or from bottom to top (Adawiyah, 2024; Arnawa, 2017). Repeatedly. The verb mbaju is realized with the entity: paddy so that it becomes rice.

Explication of the verb mbaju

At that time X did something to Y

Because of this, at the same time something happened to Y

X does it a certain way (mashing)

X does it with a certain tool (a wooden mortar tool)

X does something several times

Y becomes something (subtle)

X wants this X does something like this

CONCLUSION

Based on discussion and data results. The application of the Natural Semantic Metalanguage theory, classifies the semantics of Bima language verbs with details that have more specific elements which are reflected in the existence of verb types, subtypes and sub-subtypes. The NSM theory provides a picture in the form of a well-directed and clear meaning explication of one word with one meaning or its Bima, this can be proven by paying attention to the original meaning of the Bima language verb with the *nosi smooth* which is presented in the discussion sub-chapter in this research. There are thirteen data that show a lexicon with different entities, tools, or movements to express the verb. The data is an action type verb in the Bima language which has a smoothing notion, in general the component mapping is 'X did something to Y' and because of this 'something happened to Y'. Based on the results of data analysis, it can be concluded that when carrying out an action on Y (using certain tools, methods/movements, and the goals to be achieved), at the same time something happens to Y, so that Y becomes something (subtle). Bima language verbs which have the meaning 'to smooth' are indicated by the lexicon: Soro (shove), *kampao* (smooth), *ramba* (sharpen), *goso*, *soso* (rub), *kaniu* (smooth), *saruncu* (to grind), *pana`a* (chew), *Kakubi* (pounding), *Kiru* (grinding), *Gili* (grinding), *ndina* (stomping), *ledi* (working), and *mbaju* (pounding).

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