INTERFERENCE OF THAI LANGUAGE ON DIALECTAL VARIATIONS OF JAWI MALAY IN NARATHIWAT

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Abstract

The connection between language and culture becomes increasingly evident when the Thai language influences the variations of Jawi Malay dialects in Narathiwat. This research aims to analyze the impact of Thai language interference on the dialectal variations of Malay language in Narathiwat, Thailand, using a sociolinguistic approach. We investigate changes in language, including vocabulary usage, phonological shifts, and social influences in the everyday situations of Narathiwat society. The research methods involve interviews, surveys, text analysis, and observations in everyday contexts. The expected outcomes are to enhance understanding of language dynamics in Narathiwat, which plays a crucial role in preserving cultural and linguistic identities in a multilingual environment. This study has the potential to provide valuable insights into the preservation and maintenance of Malay language in Narathiwat, emphasizing the importance of language and sociolinguistic research in areas with strong language influences and significant cultural blends. This abstract covers the research background, objectives, research methods, research findings, discussion, conclusion, and research implications, ensuring a comprehensive understanding of the scope and relevance of this study.

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INTRODUCTION

In the intricacy and uniqueness of language, there lies a world so rich in nuances and differences that reflect the diversity of culture and history of a society (Phanthaphoommee & Ungsitipoonpor, 2023). In Narathiwat, Thailand, an intriguing linguistic complexity emerges in the form of variations of the Jawi Malay dialect, a variant of the Malay language enriched by Thai influences (Hunt et al., 2023). This phenomenon has become the center of attention for language researchers and sociolinguistic experts, challenging conventional understanding of linguistic identity and social dynamics in the region (Idami & Wati, 2024).

The connection between language and culture becomes increasingly evident when we observe how the Thai language influences the variations of Jawi Malay dialects in Narathiwat (Wu et al., 2023). Exploring how the interaction between the Thai language and Jawi Malay reflects changes in linguistic and social identity (Jasrial et al., 2024) with an emphasis on sociolinguistic analysis. In this context, it will highlight the importance of understanding the social and historical context in comprehending the linguistic intricacies and social dynamics in this region. This phenomenon raises intriguing questions about how language interactions influence the linguistic and social identity of the local community. In this context,
sociolinguistic analysis reveals not only language dynamics but also the social constructions that underlie language use and group identity (Zano, 2022).

In many culturally diverse regions, cultural exchange and language influences often become crucial aspects of daily life. Narathiwat, a province located in southern Thailand, is one such area that reflects the richness of unique cultural and linguistic diversity (Abadi Putri & Megahnanda Alidyan Kresnawati, 2023). In Narathiwat, Jawi Malay is the majority language used by its residents (Agus Dwi Cahya et al., 2021). However, as part of Thailand, the Thai language also exerts significant influence in daily life. Language interference between Malay and Thai has affected the language usage and dialectal variations in this region (Mukhlis, 2023).

This reflects an intriguing linguistic dynamic where the influence of the national language can alter the characteristics of the local language (Iswatiningsih et al., 2021). This research aims to further investigate the impact of the Thai language on the dialectal variations of Malay (Huri, 2017) in Narathiwat, Thailand. Jawi Malay reflects the complexity of a border region dominated by two main language influences, namely Thai and Malay (Yala, 2023). The interference of the Thai language in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat has been a focal point of attention in the field of sociolinguistics (Bachoh & Candra, 2022). This research aims to explore and analyze this phenomenon in greater depth, considering changes in sentence structures, vocabulary, and communication patterns within the dynamic social and cultural contexts. The results of this research support the theory proposed by (Eberhardt, 2024; Nedergaard et al., 2023) regarding language interference.

Narathiwat, located in the Southern region of Thailand, is one of the provinces predominantly inhabited by the Malay ethnic majority (Setiarini et al., 2021). The majority of its residents are native speakers of Jawi Malay and part of the Muslim community (Masalah, n.d.). Malay language in Narathiwat has a rich and deep history as an integral part of local culture and identity. It encompasses diverse dialects and language variations that reflect the richness and diversity of ethnicities, trade history, and relationships with neighboring Malaysia (Yanmanee et al., 2023).

However, as a region in Thailand, the Thai language also dominates as the national language and the medium of instruction in public institutions (Hassan et al., 2020). The influence of the Thai language extends to various aspects of daily life, including education, government, media, and commerce (Heltai & Tarsoly, 2024; Mania, 2019). This has created complexity in the language use in Narathiwat, where Thai language interference has impacted the usage of Jawi Malay (Saalasti et al., 2023).

In the background of this research, it is emphasized that previous researchers (Rahman & Kurniati, 2021) have identified changes in language and communication patterns in multilingual regions, and many of them have associated these changes with language interference. Previous relevant studies (Hasibuan et al., 2017; Kapiley & Mishra, 2024) also note grammar, vocabulary, and phonological changes in the language under the influence of foreign languages. In this context, this research takes a more detailed approach to explore the impact of Thai language interference on Jawi Malay in Narathiwat (Woolridge et al., 2024). The analysis of the literature review provides a strong foundation for understanding language and cultural changes in this multilingual region, with a specific emphasis on the role of previous speakers and their contributions in shaping language and cultural identity in Narathiwat (Ding & Chee, 2023).

Jawi Malay in Narathiwat, Thailand, is a language deeply influenced by both Thai as the regional lingua franca and Malay as its native language (Surya Pratama et al., 2023). Interference of the Thai language in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat has become a significant focus in sociolinguistic studies. Therefore, this research aims to address key questions related to this phenomenon. The research problem statements are as follows: (1) How does Thai language
interference impact changes in sentence structures and grammar in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat? (2) What are the changes in the vocabulary of Jawi Malay in Narathiwat? (2)

This research delves into the influence of the Thai language on variations of Jawi Malay dialects in Narathiwat, Thailand, while highlighting its impact on the linguistic and social identity of the local community. Within the framework of sociolinguistic analysis, this study aims to understand how the interaction between Thai and Jawi Malay languages reflects changes in group identity and social dynamics in this region. Key questions include aspects of loanwords, phonological alterations, and grammar changes, reflecting ongoing language adaptation and lexical aspects of the Jawi Malay dialect that distinguish it from other dialects, as well as the role of social context and history in the construction of language identity. By exploring a deeper understanding of language and cultural interactions in Narathiwat, this research contributes new insights into the linguistic complexity and social dynamics of the region, offering relevant perspectives in the context of globalization and cultural diversification.

RESEARCH METHOD

The research methodology applied in this study is a qualitative approach involving 20 participants, divided into 13 community members, 5 educators, and 2 language experts. Data were collected through in-depth interviews, text analysis in the Malay language, and local community surveys to deepen understanding of language interference between Thai and Jawi Malay. The data analysis process employed content and thematic analysis methods to identify changes in grammar, sentence structures, vocabulary, and communication patterns. Additionally, this research referenced a comprehensive literature review on Jawi Malay in Narathiwat and the strong influence of the Thai language. The literature review analysis provided a solid foundation for further exploration of how language interference affects various aspects of language and culture in this region. As a result, this research contributes to understanding the complexity of language and cultural changes in multilingual societies.

In the research design, a qualitative approach was chosen because it allows researchers to delve into the experiences and perceptions of participants, as well as explore complex social and cultural contexts. The sample population involved was purposively selected, considering appropriate representation from various groups in Narathiwat society. However, due to the qualitative nature of this research, generalizing the results is limited to the specific context under investigation.

The data analysis techniques were conducted carefully and systematically. After data collection, interview transcriptions and text analyses were carried out to identify main themes, common patterns, and variations in language usage. Content analysis method was employed to dissect these texts, while thematic analysis helped identify trends and patterns emerging from the collected qualitative data. This process enabled researchers to gain a deep understanding of language interference and its impact on the Jawi Malay language and culture in Narathiwat.

RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Description of Research Results

The Thai language significantly influences Jawi Malay in Narathiwat across various linguistic aspects including vocabulary, phonology, grammar, and sentence structure. Observations confirm the theories of code-switching and diglossia, indicating that Jawi Malay speakers tend to use Thai in formal or educational contexts, while Jawi Malay predominates in everyday interactions. The role of social and cultural factors in language selection corresponds with theories linking language and cultural identity. Furthermore, the multilingual nature of Narathiwat's society aligns with the concept of multilingualism in sociolinguistic theory. Thus, this research enhances theoretical understanding in
sociolinguistics by validating several existing theories through a focused investigation of Jawi Malay in Narathiwat, Thailand.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Example of Thai Language Interference</th>
<th>Sociolinguistic Analysis</th>
<th>Example</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>The Use of Thai Loanwords in Jawi Malay Language</td>
<td>Indikasi kuat pengaruh bahasa Thai terhadap kosakata Jawi Malay di Narathiwat, mungkin disebabkan oleh paparan yang berlebihan terhadap bahasa Thai di lingkungan pendidikan dan sosial</td>
<td>Example: The use of the word “โรงเรียน” (rongrien, which means school in Thai) in Jawi Malay conversations</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>The Use of Thai Phonology in Jawi Malay Language</td>
<td>Example of how Thai language phonology can influence the original phonology of Jawi Malay, resulting in variations in the pronunciation of words</td>
<td>Example: Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat may pronounce the sound /r/ in words like &quot;roti&quot; in a manner more similar to the pronunciation in the Thai language, which typically avoids the /r/ sound</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>The Social Influence in Language Selection</td>
<td>Some Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat may use the Thai language in formal or official situations, such as at school or in the workplace, while they tend to use Jawi Malay in everyday or informal situations. This reflects the social dynamics influencing language selection</td>
<td>Example: An employee in a company might use the Thai language when communicating with Thai superiors or clients, but switch to Jawi Malay when speaking with coworkers who are also native Jawi Malay speakers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>The Influence of Social Media and Mass Media</td>
<td>The use of the Thai language on social media platforms or through media channels such as television and radio can also influence language choices and linguistic styles among Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat. Media content may blend Thai language elements into Jawi Malay</td>
<td>Example: A talk show on television that uses the Thai language during discussions but inserts Jawi Malay words or phrases into the conversation to accommodate the local audience</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Sociolinguistic analysis indicates that the interference of the Thai language in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat reflects complex social dynamics and linguistic identity. The use of the Thai language in certain contexts may reflect the cultural dominance and policies of Thailand in the region. Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat often become multilingual individuals who can
switch between Thai and Jawi Malay depending on their communication context. The higher social and economic status of the Thai language in the region may make Jawi Malay speakers feel the need to use Thai in formal contexts. Thai language interference can lead to changes in language, including the assimilation of loanwords, phonological adjustments, and grammatical changes, reflecting the adaptation and evolution of Jawi Malay in Narathiwat.

Here is a table detailing some words and phrases in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat that have undergone interference from Thai, along with the sociolinguistic analysis that occurs:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>No</th>
<th>Words or Phrases in Jawi Malay</th>
<th>Thai Language Interference</th>
<th>Sociolinguistic Analysis</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>Roti (รอดี)</td>
<td>Use of Loanwords &quot;โรงเรียน&quot; (rongrien, school) In the context of Jawi Malay.</td>
<td>Lexical interference indicates the strong influence of the Thai language on the vocabulary of Jawi Malay in Narathiwat. This may be attributed to excessive exposure to the Thai language in educational and everyday environments.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>Alok (الوق)</td>
<td>The use of loanwords &quot;อาหาร&quot; (ahaan, food) To describe food in Jawi Malay.</td>
<td>Lexical interference reflects the influence of the Thai language on the vocabulary of Jawi Malay in the culinary context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>Pagi (ڤاغي)</td>
<td>Phonological changes, such as the pronunciation of the /g/ sound resembling Thai, in words &quot;โรงเรียน&quot; (rongrien, school).</td>
<td>Phonological interference indicates changes in the pronunciation of words in Jawi Malay that approximate Thai phonetics.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>บาโบล (baabol)</td>
<td>The use of loanwords from the Thai language &quot;บาสเก็ตบอล&quot; (basuketbon, bola basket) in Jawi Malay.</td>
<td>Lexical interference indicates the use of Thai vocabulary in the context of sports in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>สวัสดี (sawasdee, Congratulation)</td>
<td>The use of Thai greeting terms in daily conversations of Jawi Malay.</td>
<td>Lexical interference indicates that greeting terms from Thai are used in informal social situations in Jawi Malay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>&quot;Aroi&quot; (อร่อย) for Delicious/tasty</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to describe delicious food.</td>
<td>This phenomenon reflects the influence of Thai culinary culture and cross-cultural interactions in the culinary context.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>&quot;Sabai dee&quot; (สบายดี) To feel good</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to describe a sense of well-being.</td>
<td>Demonstrating the influence of the Thai language in the expression of daily feelings and emotions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>&quot;Krung Thep&quot; (กรุงเทพ) for capital city</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the capital city.</td>
<td>Describing adaptation in geographical terms that reflects the geographic relationship between Narathiwat and Bangkok.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>&quot;Somtam&quot; (ส้มตำ) mango salad</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the popular mango salad</td>
<td>Describing the influence of Thai culinary culture in everyday cooking.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
In the examples above, it is evident how the Thai language influences Jawi Malay in Narathiwat, whether in terms of the use of loanwords, phonology, or social changes in language selection (Susilowati, 2017). Such interference is a result of close contact between the two language-speaking communities, and the analysis. The research findings (Setiarini et al., 2021) Before delving deeper into sociolinguistics about Jawi Malay in Narathiwat, Thailand, and how Thai language interference affects their dialectal variations, as well as the role of social and cultural factors in language selection, the research could encompass the following findings, The interference of the Thai language in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat is

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<td>10</td>
<td>&quot;Tuk tuk&quot; (ตุ๊กตุ๊ก) For Traditional Transportation</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the traditional tuk-tuk transportation.</td>
<td>Demonstrating adaptation in transportation terms that reflects the presence of tuk-tuks in daily life in Narathiwat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11</td>
<td>&quot;Wat&quot; (วัด) to Buddhist temple</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to a Buddhist temple.</td>
<td>Describing the influence of Buddhism and the presence of temples in the Narathiwat community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>&quot;Songkran&quot; (สงกรานต์) to new year celebration</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to a Buddhist temple.</td>
<td>Describing the influence of Buddhism and the presence of temples in the Narathiwat community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>&quot;Loy Krathong&quot; (ลอยกระทง) to Krathong Festival celebration</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the traditional Loy Krathong celebration.</td>
<td>Indicating the adoption of Thai cultural celebrations in the festival calendar of Narathiwat.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>&quot;Prambanan&quot; (ปราโมง) to hindu temple</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the Hindu temple of Prambanan in Indonesia.</td>
<td>Describing the influence of Hindu culture outside of Thailand in the context of religion and history.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>&quot;Bhikkhu&quot; (ภิกษุ) to Buddhist monk</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to a Buddhist monk.</td>
<td>Indicating the adoption of Buddhist religious terms from Thai into Jawi Malay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>&quot;Krung Thep Maha Nakhon&quot; (กรุงเทพมหานคร) to Bangkok</td>
<td>The use of the official Thai name for Bangkok.</td>
<td>Describing the use of the official name of the city in formal and official communication.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17</td>
<td>&quot;Krathong&quot; (กระทง) to decorative boat</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the decorative boats used in the Loy Krathong celebration.</td>
<td>Indicating the use of words related to Thai cultural celebrations in the context of local festivities.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>&quot;Somchai&quot; (สมชาย) as a personal name</td>
<td>The use of common personal names in the Thai language.</td>
<td>Reflecting the strong influence of Thai culture in the naming of individuals in the Narathiwat community.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>&quot;Wai&quot; (ไหว้) to respectful greeting with a bow</td>
<td>The use of Thai words to refer to the traditional gesture of respectful greeting.</td>
<td>Indicating the adaptation of physical gestures that reflect the influence of Thai culture and social etiquette in social interactions.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>&quot;Salapao&quot; (ซาลาเปา) to steamed bun</td>
<td>the use of Thai words to refer to the food item &quot;bakpao&quot;</td>
<td>Describing the influence of Thai cuisine on local dishes and vocabulary.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
reflected in the use of Thai loanwords, especially in everyday contexts such as food and common terms, indicating the significant impact of the Thai language on Jawi Malay vocabulary. Some Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat also exhibit phonological changes in the pronunciation of words, such as the use of the /g/ sound resembling Thai, reflecting the phonological influence of the Thai language. Jawi Malay speakers tend to use the Thai language in educational and work contexts, while they prefer Jawi Malay in everyday situations and informal social interactions, reflecting the social influence on language selection. Local media and social platforms in Narathiwat blend elements of the Thai and Jawi Malay languages, with Thai often used in television programs and online media, influencing language preferences among speakers in the community.

Language changes such as the assimilation of Thai loanwords and syntactic adjustments reflect the adaptation of Jawi Malay to the influence of the Thai language, while the language and cultural identity of the Narathiwat community undergo transformation in this context. The education system in Narathiwat, which largely uses Thai as the medium of instruction, affects the proficiency and usage of Jawi Malay among the younger generation, while language policies also play a role in language usage. The higher status of the Thai language in terms of employment and social opportunities provides incentives for some Jawi Malay speakers to use Thai in formal situations. The Narathiwat community's perception of Thai language interference in Jawi Malay is highly diverse, with some considering it a threat to their language and cultural identity, while others may view it as linguistic richness.

The findings of this research depict the complexity of social and language dynamics in Narathiwat, where Jawi Malay undergoes the influence of the Thai language in various aspects. In such a multilingual environment, a deeper understanding of the cultural and social influences on language choice and dialect development is necessary to respond to the challenges faced by the Jawi Malay-speaking community in Narathiwat.

Discussion

The discussion in this research highlights the significance of Thai language interference on the variations of Jawi Malay dialects in Narathiwat and its implications in the sociolinguistic context. This phenomenon reflects the complex dynamics among language, culture, and social identity in multilingual societies. Our findings indicate that the Thai language exerts a strong influence on vocabulary, phonology, and language selection in various communication contexts within Jawi Malay.

Research findings (Fauzan, 2021) previously, The use of Thai loanwords in Jawi Malay reflects intensive interaction between two closely related cultures, while phonological changes demonstrate ongoing language adaptation amid a multilingual environment. In the social context, we found that the use of the Thai language tends to dominate formal situations, while Jawi Malay is more commonly used in daily interactions. This highlights the strong dynamics between cultural identity, social status, and practical needs in language selection.

However, local media that blend elements of the Thai and Jawi Malay languages reflect efforts to respond to the complex communication needs in an increasingly connected society. This discussion strengthens the understanding of how language and culture interact in evolving contexts, emphasizing the importance of understanding sociolinguistic complexity in multilingual societies like Narathiwat.

The research reveals that the sentence structure in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat has undergone notable changes due to the interference of the Thai language. These changes include alterations in grammar, the incorporation of Thai loanwords, and the emergence of mixed sentence patterns. Traditionally, in pure Jawi Malay, the subject typically begins the sentence, yet Thai language interference has led to shifts in word order in certain instances. Additionally, the infusion of Thai loanwords into sentences has significantly impacted the
structure of the language. Moreover, everyday conversations often exhibit mixed sentence patterns, blending elements of both Thai and Jawi Malay, resulting in distinctive and hybrid structures. These findings provide valuable insights into the dynamic relationship between language and culture in multilingual environments (Budijanto & Setyaningsih, 2022) discuss language interference and changes in sentence structure in multilingual contexts such as Narathiwat. By enhancing the understanding of these changes in sentence structure, this research provides deeper insights into the linguistic complexity and language interaction in the region.

The research findings indicate that the vocabulary in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat is also influenced by the Thai language. Identified vocabulary findings include the use of Thai loanwords, words with dual meanings, and the creation of new words reflecting the blend between Thai and Jawi Malay. Many Thai loanwords are integrated into Jawi Malay, especially in daily contexts, reflecting lexical interference. Furthermore, some words in Jawi Malay may have dual meanings associated with both Thai and Jawi Malay, reflecting the influence of both languages. Language interference may also lead to the creation of new words reflecting the fusion of Thai and Jawi Malay. These findings highlight the complexity of vocabulary usage in multilingual contexts and illustrate how these languages influence each other in Narathiwat.

The research findings suggest that communication patterns in Jawi Malay in Narathiwat also reflect the interference of the Thai language and socio-cultural factors. Discoveries in communication patterns include language selection based on context, accentuation and intonation, as well as bilingualism patterns. Jawi Malay speakers tend to choose their language based on the communication context, with Thai used in formal situations or with older speakers, while Jawi Malay is more commonly used in informal social interactions. The influence of the Thai language is also evident in accentuation and intonation, especially in the pronunciation of words undergoing phonological changes. Communication patterns indicate that many speakers are bilingual, capable of switching between Thai and Jawi Malay depending on the situation. These findings illustrate the complexity of language and cultural interaction in Narathiwat, demonstrating how these languages interact in the everyday life of the multilingual community.

In the overall analysis, changes in sentence structure, vocabulary, and communication patterns reflect the strong impact of the Thai language on Jawi Malay in Narathiwat. This influence affects how the community communicates in various situations. Language interference also influences how people identify themselves and maintain their language identity.

CONCLUSION

In this research, there are several potential sources of bias and constraints that need to be considered. Firstly, in data collection, there may be bias in participant selection, where individuals willing to participate may have perspectives or experiences that do not fully represent the entire population of Jawi Malay speakers in Narathiwat. Additionally, in data analysis, there is a possibility of subjective interpretations of findings that may affect the validity and reliability of the results. For example, interpretations based on the researcher's experiences or specific viewpoints may introduce interpretative bias. Other factors to consider include the potential influence of external factors such as social, political, or economic changes that may affect language patterns and language choices in Narathiwat society. Resource limitations, such as time and funds, may also restrict the depth of analysis and the generalization of findings. To address potential bias and constraints, further research could expand participant coverage, employ more structured analysis methods, and consider external factors in interpreting results. Thus, this research could yield a more holistic and accurate understanding of language and cultural dynamics in Narathiwat society.
The sociolinguistic research on Jawi Malay in Narathiwat, Thailand, influenced by the interference of the Thai language and socio-cultural factors in language choice, reveals a strong impact of Thai, particularly in vocabulary, phonology, grammar, and sentence structure. The community selects languages based on communication context, using Thai in formal situations while Jawi Malay is more dominant in everyday interactions. Thai language interference also influences changes in Jawi Malay, including loanwords, phonological alterations, and grammar changes, reflecting ongoing language adaptation. Social and cultural factors, such as social status, economic considerations, the education system, and language policies, also play a role in language choice. Communication patterns that blend Thai and Jawi Malay reflect a multilingual environment. The importance of understanding and preserving Jawi Malay and culture in Narathiwat is paramount, and efforts through education, policies, and community collaboration are expected to safeguard cultural and linguistic identities in the era of globalization.

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Thank you and appreciation to the rector of Universitas Muhammadiyah Tapanuli Selatan who has given researches the opportunity to explore the problems of Malay in Narathiwat, Thailand, influenced by the interference of the Thai language and socio-cultural factors in language choice, reveals a strong impact of Thai, particularly in vocabulary, phonology, grammar, and sentence structure.

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