

## 12. MECHANISM ON THE ACQUISITION OF BALINESE LANGUAGE AS MOTHER TONGUE IN MULTILINGUAL COMMUNITY, DENPASAR.

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He is a senior lecturer in Linguistics Department, Faculty of Arts, Udayana University, Bali, Indonesia. He is a Professor in Linguistics, majoring in Sociolinguistics, also interested in the field of Anthropology and Sociology and Language teaching. At the moment, he is teaching Social Anthropology, Sociolinguistics, and pragmatics for Undergraduate and post graduate students. His research interest is mainly focusing on Sociolinguistics. Recently he has done a long-term research project titled, 'Research Mechanism for Mother Language'. This was a three to four years research. This study yielded a model for designing a roadmap of Ethnic languages (mother tongue) research in order to determine the status of ethnic language as a mother tongue (ethnic identity). This year is the concluding stage of this research. He has published three articles from this result; 1. Language mapping in multilingual community in Bali; 2. Language Shift and Maintenance in Multilingual Community in Bali; 3. Ecolinguistic Approach on depletion and absorption of Balinese language in Multilingual Community in Bali.

### **Mechanism on the acquisition of Balinese language as mother tongue in multilingual community, Denpasar.**

This research is focused on the study of mechanism on acquisition of Balinese language in a multilingual community Denpasar city. Theoretically, One of the most important aspects in biolinguistics diversity is the speakers' acquisition of their own language (Chomsky 1965 , McNeill 1966 in Brown 2000, Fry 1979) as well as the surrounding environment of the speakers such as the parent strategies to transmit the language to their children (Romain 1999). This condition of

the speakers strongly determines and directly influences the acquisition, mastery, and the use of language (Holmes 2001). This research is carried out to investigate: 1) the mastery and the acquisition of Balinese language on parent and the children at the level of pre operation period (Piaget 1972 in Brown 2000:61) or at the level of “adult like grammar” (Fry 1979), 2) Parent strategies in transmitting language to their children, 3) The language use by the children in different domains such as family, friendship, and education. The locations of the study are classified into four main areas; in the North, South, West, and East Denpasar (see Suastra et al, 2017). The subjects of the research were the children at the age of 4 to 6 years old where they were still in the kindergarten schools. The application of a number of theories such as language acquisition (Chomsky 1965, McNeill 1966 in Brown 2000, Fry 1979), parent strategies in transmitting language (Romaine 1999), and language used by domains (Fishman 1972, Holmes 2001) are very important as a basis of the analysis. The correlation of mastery, acquisition, and language use of the children on Balinese in bio-linguistics diversity is able to produce a model of Balinese language use in Denpasar multilingual community.

*Keywords: bio-linguistics diversity, language acquisition. Language transmission, language used by domains.*