

Alan M. Stevens and A. Ed. Schmidgall-Tellings, *A Comprehensive Indonesian-English Dictionary*, Athens: Ohio University Press, 2004, xviii + 1103.

This dictionary is a collaboration of more than twenty years that ended with the death of the second lexicographer. The term *root* is used as the equivalent for *base word*, which should not be confused with the CVC root words that can either be the internal structures or independent free forms in Indonesian (McCune 1985).

The prefix *meN-* is singled out as the most problematic prefix in Indonesian word formation as it comes in both standard and non-standard forms. A table of the *meN-* variables in affixation with roots of different alphabetical initial is provided (p. xi). Monosyllabic Indonesian roots are said to be preceded with <*e*> optionally before the prefixation of *meN-* or *peN-* (p. xi). If standard monosyllabic Malay base words take the prefixation of *-nge-* prior to the prefixation, the difference in the word formation would then be:

	English	Infixation	Prefixation	Word Formation
Indonesian Stem (p. xi)	<i>cat</i> paint	( <i>e</i> ) + <i>cat</i>	<i>meng</i> + <i>ecat</i> <i>meN</i> + <i>cat</i>	<i>mengecat</i> <i>mencat</i> to paint
Malay Base	<i>cat</i> paint	<i>nge</i> + <i>cat</i>	<i>meN</i> + <i>ngecat</i>	<i>mengecat</i> to paint
Indonesian Stem (p. xi)	<i>lap</i> wipe	( <i>e</i> ) + <i>lap</i>	<i>meng</i> + <i>elap</i> <i>meN</i> + <i>lap</i>	<i>mengelap</i> <i>melap</i> (to wipe)
Malay Base	<i>lap</i> wipe	<i>nge</i> + <i>lap</i>	<i>meN</i> + <i>ngelap</i>	<i>mengelap</i> (to wipe)

The above variations require further syntactic investigation to attain economy adequacy.

Some entries of Indonesian lexical item in this dictionary that are not found in Echols and Shadily (1989), Badudu and Zain (1994) and Salim (1997) include:

**benci** II [ben(ar-benar) ci(nta)] (*BG*) to really love e.o. (p. 118)

**onanis** (*D*) masturbator, onanist (p. 678)

**pawagam** [panggung wayang gambar] (*Mal*) movie theatre (p. 720)

(*BG* = teen slang, *D* = Dutch, *Mal* = Malay (p. xiv, xv); see entries under F for more new lexical items)

With the categorisation of the first syllable as the acronymic foundation, it is easy to understand why *benci*, which originally means ‘to hate’, can have the additional opposing meaning listed above. The same method should be used to highlight the formation of *pawagam*, as non-native users may have difficulties in tracing the combination of the first three syllables of the three words behind its engineer. Given that acronymic formation is common in Indonesian lexicology, words like *langsia* (*lanjut usia* > over age > senior citizens) and *berdikari* (*berdiri di kaki sendiri* > stand on one’s feet > be independent) can be included as part of word formation in Indonesian.

Many lexical entries are well described with collocating expressions that form the proverbs, idioms, and new references of the respective lexical item. Indonesian roots like *ayam* ‘chicken’, *kucing* ‘cat’, *bulan* ‘moon’, *hati* ‘liver’ are designated with specific meanings in idiomatic phrases, colloquial expressions and euphemistic equivalents. Interestingly, a male prostitute in Indonesia is expressed as a *kucing* ‘cat’ in standard Indonesian (p. 529). One minor remark pertains to the missing euphemistic lexical entry for the forbidden animal *khinzir* ‘pig; hog; swine’, which can be found in Salim (1997: 609).

The affixes *memper--kan* and *memper--i* of *suami* (husband) (p. 959) may not be easy to differentiate:

*mempersuamikan* = to marry off  
*mempersuami* = to marry (a man)

Contrastive examples of the applicative and possessive meanings for the affixations can better explicate the difference:

*Ali mempersuamikan anaknya dengan Ahmad*  
 Ali married off his daughter to Ahmad

*Ani mempersuami Ali sejak tahun lalu.*  
 Ani is married to Ali since last year.

The Indonesian copula *adalah* and *ialah* in the dictionary are clearly designated with syntactic constructions that are quite different from the Malay counterparts (cf. Sew 1998). Discourse analysis on the usage of these two varieties could verify if the difference is regular or intuitive.

English is a major resource language supplying new lexical entries through transliteration to standard Indonesian. The iconic sound structures remain visible in onomatopoeic root word clusters and freezes (cf. Sew 2004). The etymological abbreviations are provided with accuracy in the dictionary. Further, the workmanship of this volume is of high quality. The layout and font variations on each page are reader friendly. Consequently, the flow of the print contrasts aesthetically.

Indeed, the lexicographers, editors, and production team had painstakingly seen to the completion of this dictionary. The two researchers maintained a current and progressive Indonesian lexicon. I look forward to seeing an abridged version of this dictionary for quick reference to Indonesian semantics and morphology. The dictionary is a valuable reference to libraries all over the world.

## References

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