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## Multilingual Practices in Public Spaces: A Linguistic Landscape Analysis of Railway Stations in Cirebon

الممارسات اللغوية المتعددة في الفضاءات العامة: تحليل المشهد اللغوي  
لمحطات القطارات في تشيربون

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### ABSTRACT

**Purpose**—This study aims to analyze the multilingual practices manifested in the linguistic landscape of two railway stations in Cirebon—Kejaksan Station and Prujakan Station. It explores how languages are used in public spaces, reflecting social dynamics, power relations, and language contestation within the context of urban multilingualism. **Design/methods/approach** – Employing a qualitative case study method, data were collected through photographic documentation of linguistic signs at both stations. These signs were classified based on language type—monolingual, bilingual, and multilingual—and analyzed in terms of language function (informational and symbolic) and the actors behind the signs (top-down vs. bottom-up). **Findings** – The findings reveal a dominance of bilingual signage combining Indonesian and English at both stations, with 87% at Kejaksan Station and 91% at Prujakan Station. Monolingual signage, predominantly in Indonesian, accounts for a small portion of the data. The use of English alongside Indonesian signifies the increasing influence of global language practices in public spaces, while the predominance of top-down signage reflects institutional control over language use in railway station environments. **Research implications** – This study highlights the role of linguistic landscape analysis in understanding language contact phenomena and sociolinguistic dynamics in urban public spaces. It also sheds light on the symbolic power of language policies and institutional decisions in shaping public communication in Indonesia's multilingual context.

**KEYWORDS:** *Linguistic Landscape, Multilingualism, Public Space, Railway Station, Cirebon*

### الملخص

الهدف – يهدف هذا البحث إلى تحليل الممارسات اللغوية المتعددة كما تظهر في المشهد اللغوي لمحطتي القطار في مدينة تشيربون، وهما محطة كيجاكسن ومحطة بروجكان. ويستكشف البحث كيفية استخدام اللغات في الفضاءات العامة باعتبارها انعكاسًا للديناميكيات الاجتماعية وعلاقات القوة والتنافس اللغوي في سياق التعدد اللغوي الحضري. المنهجية/المدخل – اعتمد البحث على المنهج النوعي باستخدام دراسة الحالة، حيث جُمعت البيانات من خلال التوثيق الفوتوغرافي للعلامات اللغوية في كلتا المحطتين. ثم صُنفت العلامات وفقًا لنوع اللغة المستخدمة-

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أحادية اللغة، ثنائية اللغة، متعددة اللغات- وُحُللت من حيث الوظيفة اللغوية (الإعلامية والرمزية) ومن حيث الفاعلين وراء هذه العلامات (من الجهات الرسمية أو الأفراد). النتائج -أظهرت النتائج هيمنة العلامات ثنائية اللغة التي تجمع بين اللغة الإندونيسية والإنجليزية في كلتا المحطتين، حيث بلغت النسبة 87% في محطة كيجاكسن و91% في محطة بروجكان. أما العلامات أحادية اللغة -وأغلبها باللغة الإندونيسية- فقد شكّلت نسبة ضئيلة من البيانات. ويشير استخدام اللغة الإنجليزية جنبًا إلى جنب مع الإندونيسية إلى التأثير المتزايد للممارسات اللغوية العالمية في الفضاءات العامة، في حين تعكس هيمنة العلامات الصادرة من الجهات الرسمية السيطرة المؤسسية على استخدام اللغة في بيئة محطات القطار. -الدلالات البحثية -يرز هذا البحث أهمية تحليل المشهد اللغوي في فهم ظواهر الاتصال اللغوي والديناميكيات الاجتماعية اللغوية في الفضاءات العامة الحضرية. كما يسلط الضوء على القوة الرمزية للسياسات اللغوية وقرارات المؤسسات في تشكيل الخطاب العام ضمن سياق التعدد اللغوي في إندونيسيا.

**الكلمات المفتاحية:** المشهد اللغوي، التعدد اللغوي، الفضاء العام، محطة القطار، تشيربون

## 1. Introduction

Indonesia is a country rich in ethnic, cultural, religious, and linguistic diversity.<sup>1</sup> The Indonesian language serves as a unifying medium of communication among its people.<sup>2</sup> Beyond that, it also functions as a national symbol of unity.<sup>3</sup> The commitment to the Indonesian language, declared during the Youth Pledge, was motivated by the spread of foreign languages and the desire to overcome ethnic primordialism.<sup>4</sup> Nevertheless, the contestation of multiple languages in the public spaces of various regions across Indonesia is unavoidable. This multilingual phenomenon is evident in shop names, street names, public spaces, signage, banners, advertisements, traffic signs, posters, billboards, and building names.

This multilingual occurrence is also present in Cirebon. As a central hub connecting major cities on the island of Java – especially between West and Central Java – Cirebon holds a strategic position.<sup>5</sup> Moreover, its harbor serves as a stopover for both local and international traders.<sup>6</sup> Due to its northern coastal location, Cirebon

<sup>1</sup> Jukka Siikala, ed., *Culture and History in the Pacific* (Helsinki University Press PP - Helsinki, 2021), <https://doi.org/10.33134/HUP-12>.

<sup>2</sup> Kusman Sudarja, "Alih Kode Dan Campur Kode Dalam Proses Pengajaran Bahasa Indonesia," *Alfabeta: Jurnal Bahasa, Sastra, Dan Pembelajarannya* 2, no. 2 (2019): 35–49.

<sup>3</sup> Ayu Purnamasari and Wira Jaya Hartono, "Pentingnya Penggunaan Bahasa Indonesia Di Perguruan Tinggi," *Jotika Journal in Education* 2, no. 2 (2023): 57–64.

<sup>4</sup> Gunawan Santoso, Aim Abdul Karim, and Bunyamin Maftuh, "Kajian Integrasi Nasional Dalam NKRI Tidak Dapat Diubah Dan Sumpah Pemuda Indonesia Abad 21," *Jurnal Pendidikan Transformatif* 2, no. 1 (2023): 270–83.

<sup>5</sup> Didin Nurul Rosidin, Asep Saefullah, and Ihsan Sa'udin, "THE RISE OF AT-TAQWA AS THE GRAND MOSQUE AND AUTHORITY CONTESTED IN CIREBON-INDONESIA," *Journal of Islamic Architecture* 7, no. 1 (2022): 162–70.

<sup>6</sup> Aminudin, "HISTORIOGRAFI ISLAM CIREBON (KAJIAN MANUSKRIP SEJDIRECTION ISLAM CIREBON)," *The International Journal of Pegon Islam Nusantara Civilization* 11, no. 3 (2023): 49.

has experienced significant social development, driven by intensive interactions between locals and outsiders in cultural, religious, and economic exchanges.<sup>7</sup> This has shaped the Cirebonese society into a multilingual, multiethnic, and multicultural community.<sup>8</sup> As a port city, its population is inclined to adopt external cultural and ideological values.<sup>9</sup> Therefore, the use of various languages in both private and public domains remains a salient feature of daily linguistic practice in Cirebon.

To preserve the Indonesian language and local languages among the population, the Government of the Republic of Indonesia issued Presidential Regulation No. 63 of 2019 concerning the Use of the Indonesian Language. In line with this, the Cirebon Regency Government issued Circular Letter No. 434/849/Huk concerning the Use of the Cirebonese Language within the Regency Government.<sup>10</sup> Despite these governmental efforts, the high heterogeneity of Cirebon's population results in frequent language contact, such as the simultaneous use of Indonesian and Arabic on shop signs in Panjunan, Indonesian and English at the railway station, and the Cirebonese language alongside Indonesian on billboards.

In linguistic studies, the phenomenon of language use in public spaces is referred to as Linguistic Landscape.<sup>11</sup> This field deals with linguistic signs, language symbols, store labels, billboards, and similar public inscriptions.<sup>12</sup> Linguistic Landscape research examines issues related to language and society, exploring the visual representation of language in the environment through written texts and images.<sup>13</sup>

It is widely accepted in linguistic landscape studies that there are two categories of language use: top-down and bottom-up. Top-down signage is issued by public authorities, including government signage, public notices, and street names.<sup>14</sup>

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<sup>7</sup> Melisa Cefcuty Nainggolan et al., "MENILIK BUDAYA MARITIM DARI MASYARAKAT PESISIR SEKITAR PULAU JAWA TAHUN 1920," *Krinok: Jurnal Pendidikan SejDirection Dan SejDirection* 2, no. 1 (2023): 102–10.

<sup>8</sup> Azizah Khoirotn Nisa, "Peran Pelabuhan Muara Djati Dalam Islamisasi Di Cirebon," *Priangan* 1, no. 1 (2022): 84–94.

<sup>9</sup> Bagus Purnomo, "Islam Di Pesisir Utara Jawa Dalam Simbol Sufistik Naskah Sejatiné Manusa: Sebuah Pembacaan Simbol-Simbol Sufistik Dan Analisis SejDirection Sosial-Intelektual," *Peradaban Journal of Religion and Society* 2, no. 2 (2023): 196–214.

<sup>10</sup> Bupati Cirebon, "Penggunaan Bahasa Cirebon Di Lingkup Pemerintah Kabupaten Cirebon," Pub. L. No. 434/849/Huk (2014).

<sup>11</sup> Elana Shohamy, "Linguistic Landscape after a Decade: An Overview of Themes, Debates and Future Directions," in *Expanding the Linguistic Landscape: Linguistic Diversity, Multimodality and the Use of Space as a Semiotic Resource*, vol. 25 (Multilingual Matters Bristol, 2019), 37. Read David Malinowski, Hiram H Maxim, and Sébastien Dubreil, *Language Teaching in the Linguistic Landscape: Mobilizing Pedagogy in Public Space*, vol. 49 (Springer Nature, 2021).

<sup>12</sup> N J Albury, "Linguistic Landscape and Metalinguistic Talk about Societal Multilingualism," *International Journal of Bilingual Education and Bilingualism* 24, no. 2 (2021): 207–23, <https://doi.org/10.1080/13670050.2018.1452894>. Read Zane Goebel, "Semiotic Landscapes : Scaling Indonesian Multilingualism," *Humaniora* 32, no. 3 (2020): 191–205.

<sup>13</sup> Durk Gorter and Jasone Cenoz, *A Panorama of Linguistic Landscape Studies* (Channel View Publications, 2023).

<sup>14</sup> Eliezer Ben-rafael, Elana Shohamy, and Muhammad Hasan Amara, "Linguistic Landscape as Symbolic Construction of the Public Space : The Case of Israel Construction of the Public Space :,"

Bottom-up signage refers to language use initiated by individuals or private entities, such as shop names, business signs, and personal announcements.<sup>15</sup> These categories reflect differing degrees of language formality or authority, with top-down signage generally holding a higher degree of officialdom.

Given the issues outlined above, this study is significant because the phenomenon of multilingualism in Cirebon's public spaces occurs extensively, indicating the socio-cognitive engagement of the community with multilingualism. Applying the Linguistic Landscape approach highlights the progress of Cirebon, as evidenced by the proliferation of posters, advertisements, and various symbols in public areas. Furthermore, the use of Indonesian, regional languages, and foreign languages in Cirebon's public spaces serves as a site of contestation reflecting the power relations between public authorities and individual social actors.

## 2. Methods

This study employs a qualitative approach with a case study perspective. The case study method focuses intensively on a particular object of study in order to explore it in depth and uncover the underlying realities associated with that object.<sup>16</sup> Through this perspective, the research aims to reveal and analyze linguistic realities manifested in the linguistic landscape of public spaces in the city of Cirebon. The public spaces selected as sources of research data include both government sectors, Kejaksaan Station and Prujakan Station.

The data were collected from textual signs found on name boards (buildings, facilities, and rooms), information boards (wall-mounted, hanging, pole signs, standing boards, videotrons, LEDs, billboards, advertisements, and banners), warning or prohibition signs, and advertising media (videotrons, LEDs, banners, and posters). These data were gathered through documentation of linguistic landscape objects and classified based on language use—monolingual, bilingual, and multilingual—to analyze patterns, forms, and language choices in public spaces.

The data presented are visual representations containing linguistic signs, whether static or dynamic images. Data collection techniques applied in this study include interviews, documentation, and note-taking. To observe the phenomenon of linguistic landscape in Cirebon's public spaces, the research began with an observation phase, using photographic documentation as primary material for analysis. Photography is a recognized method in many linguistic landscape studies for capturing data on public language displays.

The analysis of the linguistic landscape in this study follows six stages:

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*International Journal of Multilingualism* 3, no. 1 (2006): 37–41.

<sup>15</sup> Nakita Febiola Vesya and Frans Asisi Datang, "LANSKAP LINGUISTIK STASIUN MRT LEBAK BULUS GRAB," in *Konferensi Linguistik Tahunan Atma Jaya (KOLITA) 20* (Universitas Atmajaya, 2022), 232–43. Read Anita Nur Aini, Yarno, and R Panji Hermoyo, "Lanskap Linguistik Di Stasiun Surabaya Pasarturi," *Diglosia* 6, no. 3 (2023): 795–814.

<sup>16</sup> Mundjia Rahardjo, "Studi Kasus Dalam Penelitian Kualitatif: Konsep Dan Prosedurnya" (Malang: UIN Maulana Malik Ibrahim, 2017).

microlinguistic analysis, language code type analysis, language behavior analysis, psychological analysis, socio-psychological analysis, and sociological analysis. The collected data in the form of photographs will be examined using two primary functions of linguistic landscape analysis: the informational function, which focuses on linguistic aspects, and the symbolic function, which examines language use in its interactive and socio-cultural contexts. The symbolic function also seeks to uncover the underlying messages of linguistic landscape phenomena, including the hierarchy of languages and how such landscapes are socially constructed.

### 3. Results and Discussion

#### Literature Review

The researcher conducted an analysis of previous studies relevant to this research. However, studies on the linguistic landscape specifically focused on public spaces in the city of Cirebon are scarce. In terms of research objects, several studies have addressed language phenomena in public spaces, such as an analysis of the linguistic landscape in Medan City using onomastic, semiotic, and spatial approaches, which found the dominance of foreign languages, thereby diminishing the position of Bahasa Indonesia as the sole linguistic authority in Medan.<sup>17</sup> Another study examined the contestation between Bahasa Indonesia and foreign languages at Yogyakarta International Airport, revealing a language contestation that does not fully comply with national regulations.<sup>18</sup>

Further studies include research on the shifting use of the Cirebonese language within family domains<sup>19</sup>; exploration of store signs in Bandung to investigate multilingualism and mobility in Indonesia through a semiotic landscape approach<sup>20</sup>; language use on signage at Surabaya Pasarturi Station<sup>21</sup>; investigation of language use patterns as strategies for influencing consumers in the naming of housing complexes in Malang City<sup>22</sup>; contestation of the English language in shopping centers

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<sup>17</sup> Sahril, Syahifuddin Zuhri Harahap, and Agus Bambang Hermanto, "LANSKAP LINGUISTIK KOTA MEDAN : KAJIAN ONOMASTIKA , SEMIOTIKA , DAN SPASIAL," *Medan Makna* XVII, no. 2 (2019).

<sup>18</sup> Anis Rahmawati, "KONTESTASI BAHASA INDONESIA DAN BAHASA ASING DI BANDARA INTERNASIONAL YOGYAKARTA : KAJIAN LANSKAP LINGUISTIK," in *Prosiding Seminar Linguistik Dan Sastra (SEMANTIKS)*, vol. 4, 2022, 75-81.

<sup>19</sup> Aveny Septi Astriani and Handayani Nila Praja, "GEJALA PERGESERAN BAHASA CIREBON DI RANAH KELUARGA (Studi Kasus Di Kota Cirebon) Aveny," *Jurnal Metabasa* 1, no. 2 (2019): 1-5.

<sup>20</sup> Goebel, "Semiotic Landscapes : Scaling Indonesian Multilingualism."

<sup>21</sup> Aini, Yarno, and Hermoyo, "Lanskap Linguistik Di Stasiun Surabaya Pasarturi."

<sup>22</sup> Dany Ardhan, Eti Setiawati, and Millatuz Zakiyah, "Memotret Wajah Ruang Publik Melalui Sistem Penamaan Perumahan Di Kota Malang: Kajian Lanskap Linguistik," *Widyantara* 1, no. 2 (2023): 169-87.



in Jordan<sup>23</sup>; linguistic landscape analysis of residential names in Medan<sup>24</sup>; university name studies in Tanzania<sup>25</sup>; and analysis of the linguistic landscape in business centers in Mueang, Thailand<sup>26</sup>.

Several studies from other countries have also employed linguistic landscape as an analytical tool, such as research on linguistic landscapes during the COVID-19 pandemic on the northern coast of Vancouver<sup>27</sup>; studies on waves of linguistic identity change in the Gulf States<sup>28</sup>; linguistic landscape analysis concerning language policy in South African schools.<sup>29</sup> Other investigations include studies of translingual storybooks for Arabic-English bilingual children in the United Arab Emirates<sup>30</sup>; analysis of Turkish-English bilingual content in virtual linguistic landscapes in Turkey<sup>31</sup>; research on ethnic minorities in China, particularly in the Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture<sup>32</sup>; and studies on school linguistic landscapes using a functional-discourse approach in secondary schools in Hamburg.<sup>33</sup>

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<sup>23</sup> Omar I S Alomoush and Ghazi K Al-naimat, "English in the Linguistic Landscape of Jordanian Shopping Malls: Sociolinguistic Variation and Translanguaging Omar," *The Asian Journal of Applied Linguistics* 7, no. 1 (2020): 101-15.

<sup>24</sup> Betharia Sembiring Pandia and Berlin Sibarani, "Linguistic Landscape at Businesses Nameplate in Medan," *Asian Social Science and Humanities Research Journal (ASHREJ)* 4, no. 2 (2022): 17-22.

<sup>25</sup> Amani Lusekelo, Chrispina Alphonse, and Onesmo Simon Nyinondi, "The Language of the Public Spaces in Tanzanian Universities during the COVID-19 Pandemic," *Ethnologia Actualis* 21, no. 2 (2018): 36-58.

<sup>26</sup> Supatra Yothinsirikul, "Linguistic Landscape from Business Names in Mueang District, Phayao Province," *Journal of Language and Linguistic Studies* 18, no. 2 (2022): 380-89.

<sup>27</sup> S Marshall, "Navigating COVID-19 Linguistic Landscapes in Vancouver's North Shore: Official Signs, Grassroots Literacy Artefacts, Monolingualism, and Discursive Convergence," *International Journal of Multilingualism* 20, no. 2 (2023): 189-213, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14790718.2020.1849225>.

<sup>28</sup> Sarah Hopkyns and Wafa Zoghbor, eds., *Linguistic Identities in the Arab Gulf States: Waves of Change* (Taylor & Francis, 2022), <https://doi.org/10.4324/9781003149637>.

<sup>29</sup> M M Kretzer, "Language Policy and Linguistic Landscapes at Schools in South Africa," *International Journal of Multilingualism* 18, no. 1 (2021): 105-27, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14790718.2019.1666849>.

<sup>30</sup> K Gallagher, "An Investigation into the Linguistic Landscape of Translingual Storybooks for Arabic-English Bilingual Children," *Journal of Multilingual and Multicultural Development* 41, no. 4 (2020): 348-67, <https://doi.org/10.1080/01434632.2019.1621326>.

<sup>31</sup> U Keles, "Turkish-English Bilingual Content in the Virtual Linguistic Landscape of a University in Turkey: Exclusive de Facto Language Policies," *International Multilingual Research Journal* 14, no. 1 (2020): 1-19, <https://doi.org/10.1080/19313152.2019.1611341>.

<sup>32</sup> J Yao, "Linguistic Landscape in Liangshan Yi Autonomous Prefecture: The Case of an Ethnic Minority Region in China," *International Journal of Multilingualism* 20, no. 2 (2023): 169-88, <https://doi.org/10.1080/14790718.2020.1800018>.

<sup>33</sup> J Androutsopoulos, "The Linguistic Landscape of School Space A Discourse-Functional Approach for Linguistic Schoolscape Research on the Example of a Hamburg High School.," *Zeitschrift Fur Angewandte Linguistik* 75, no. 1 (2021): 195-243, <https://doi.org/10.1515/zfal-2021-2065>.

**Frequency, Forms, and Patterns of Language Use at Kejaksan Station**

Table 1. Forms and Patterns of Language Use at Kejaksan Station

No	Data	Languages			Categories
		Indo	English	Cirebon	
1	Keluar/Exit	V	V		Bilingual
2	Parkir Motor	V			Monolingual
3	Edu Train		V		Monolingual
4	Toilet/Restroom	V	V		Bilingual
5	Kedatangan/Arrival	V	V		Bilingual
6	Keberangkatan/Departure	V	V		Bilingual
7	Kedatangan Utara/Arrival	v	v		Bilingual
8	Loket/Ticket Counter	v	v		Bilingual
9	layanan pelanggan/ Customer service	v	v		Bilingual
10	Ruang kerja bersama/Co-Working Space	v	v		Bilingual
11	Pertokoan/Shops	v	v		Bilingual
12	Restoran/restourant	v	v		Bilingual
13	ATM/ATM	v	v		Bilingual
14	Parkir mobil	v			Monolingual
15	Utamakan Keselamatan/Safety First	v	v		Bilingual
16	Zona naik/pick up point	v	v		Bilingual
17	Zona Turun/Drop off	v	v		Bilingual
18	Information stasiun	v			Monolingual
19	Kedatangan Selatan/Arrival	v	v		Bilingual
20	Musala/Prayer room	v	v		Bilingual
21	Parkir/Parking	v	v		Bilingual
22	Toilet/Restroom	V	V		Bilingual
23	Pertokoan/Shops	v	v		Bilingual
24	Pintu Masuk/Gate	v	v		Bilingual
25	Jalur Evakuasi/Evacuation Route	v	v		Bilingual
26	Pengisi Baterai/Charging Corner	v	v		Bilingual
27	Loket Penjualan langsung/Go Show	v	v		Bilingual
28	Area Merokok/Smoking Area	v	v		Bilingual
29	Penjualan tiket langsung (go-show)/train tickets for today (go-Show)	v	v		Bilingual
30	Pengubahan Jadwal/ticket reschedulling	v	v		Bilingual
31	Pembatalan tiket/Cancellation	v	v		Bilingual
32	Pengawas Peron/Platform Supervisor	v	v		Bilingual
33	Plastik/Plastic	v	v		Bilingual
34	Kertas/Paper	v	v		Bilingual
35	Organic	v	v		Bilingual
36	Guidance angkutan lanjutan/Advances transportation information	v	v		Bilingual
37	Peta jaringan kereta api jawa dan	v	v		Bilingual

	madura/Java and madura railway network map			
38	Jadwal Kereta/train schedule	v	v	Bilingual
39	Dilarang merokok/no smoking	v	v	Bilingual
40	barang bawaan anda tidak boleh	v		Monolingual

Table 2. Frequency and Percentage of Language Characteristics at Kejaksan Station

Form	Pattern	Frequency	Presentage
Monolingual	Indonesia	4	10%
	English	1	3%
Bilingual	Indonesia-English	35	87%

Table 2 presents two forms of language use at Kejaksan Station: monolingual and bilingual. Within these forms, two languages appear in the monolingual category – Indonesian and English. These two languages represent two language origins: the national language (Indonesian) and a foreign language (English). In the bilingual form, language use at Kejaksan Station consistently shows a single pattern, namely the combination of Indonesian and English.

Table 2 also reveals that both Indonesian and English are involved across all patterns, whether monolingual or bilingual. This finding suggests that both languages possess the necessary capacity to serve informational and symbolic functions in the production of public texts at Kejaksan Station. Regarding frequency, the dominance of bilingual language use significantly influences the communication system in Kejaksan Station’s public space, accounting for approximately 87% of occurrences.

The strong and widespread appearance of Indonesian and English in bilingual form indicates the pervasive presence of English in the public space of Kejaksan Station. These two languages (Indonesian and English) are in close competition for occupying public spaces within the station. This intense competition is reflected in their involvement across all patterns of language use. Their combination demonstrates the deliberate display of specific symbols within the public sphere.

### Frequency, Forms, and Patterns of Language Use at Prujakan Station

Table 3. Forms and Patterns of Language Use at Prujakan Station

No	Data	Languages			Category
		Indo	English	Cirebon	
1	Keluar/Exit	V	V		Bilingual
2	Parkir Motor	V			Monolingual
3	Toilet/Restroom	V	V		Bilingual
4	Kedatangan/Arrival	V	V		Bilingual
5	Keberangkatan/Departure	V	V		Bilingual
6	Kedatangan Utara/Arrival	v	v		Bilingual
7	Loket/Ticket Counter	v	v		Bilingual



8	layanan pelanggan/Customer service	v	v	Bilingual
9	Ruang kerja bersama/Co-Working Space	v	v	Bilingual
10	Pertokoan/Shops	v	v	Bilingual
11	Restoran/restourant	v	v	Bilingual
12	ATM/ATM	v	v	Bilingual
13	Parkir mobil	v		Monolingual
14	Utamakan Keselamatan/Safety First	v	v	Bilingual
15	Zona naik/pick up point	v	v	Bilingual
16	Zona Turun/Drop off	v	v	Bilingual
17	Information stasiun	v		Monolingual
18	Kedatangan Selatan/Arrival	v	v	Bilingual
19	Musala/Prayer room	v	v	Bilingual
20	Parkir/Parking	v	v	Bilingual
21	Toilet/Restroom	V	V	Bilingual
22	Pertokoan/Shops	v	v	Bilingual
23	Pintu Masuk/Gate	v	v	Bilingual
24	Jalur Evakuasi/Evacuation Route	v	v	Bilingual
25	Pengisi Baterai/Charging Corner	v	v	Bilingual
26	Loket Penjualan langsung/Go Show	v	v	Bilingual
27	Area Merokok/Smoking Area	v	v	Bilingual
28	Waktu/Time	v	v	Bilingual
29	Kereta api/Train	v	v	Bilingual
30	Tujuan/ Bound for	v	v	Bilingual
31	Peron/Platform	v	v	Bilingual
32	Information Keberangkatan KA/Train Departure Information	v	v	Bilingual
33	Penjualan tiket langsung (go-show)/train tickets for today (go-Show)	v	v	Bilingual
34	Pengubahan Jadwal/ticket reschedulling	v	v	Bilingual
35	Pembatalan tiket/Cancellation	v	v	Bilingual
36	Pengawas Peron/Platform Supervisor	v	v	Bilingual
37	Plastik/Plastic	v	v	Bilingual
38	Kertas/Paper	v	v	Bilingual
39	Organic	v	v	Bilingual
40	Guidance angkutan lanjutan/Advances transportation information	v	v	Bilingual
41	Peta jaringan kereta api jawa dan madura/Java and madura railway network map	v	v	Bilingual
42	Jadwal Kereta/train schedule	v	v	Bilingual
43	Dilarang merokok/no smoking	v	v	Bilingual
44	barang bawaan anda tidak boleh	v		Monolingual

Table 4. Frequency and Percentage of Language Characteristics at Prujakan Station

Form	Pattern	Frequency	Presentage
Monolingual	Indonesia	4	9%
Bilingual	Indonesia-English	40	91%

Table 4 presents two forms of language use at Prujakan Station: monolingual and bilingual. In the monolingual form, only Indonesian is used. In contrast, the bilingual form at Prujakan Station consistently features a single pattern – the combination of Indonesian and English. These two languages represent distinct origins: the national language (Indonesian) and a foreign language (English).

Table 4 also reveals that both Indonesian and English appear in all usage patterns, whether monolingual or bilingual. This indicates that both languages have the capacity to fulfill informational and symbolic functions in public text production at Prujakan Station. In terms of frequency, the dominance of bilingual usage significantly influences the communication system in the public space of Prujakan Station, accounting for approximately 91% of occurrences.

The prevalence of bilingual usage – combining Indonesian and English – highlights the strong and widespread presence of English in Prujakan Station's public space. Both languages (Indonesian and English) compete intensely for visibility in this space. This competition is further reflected in their involvement across all language use patterns, showing their ability to coexist and symbolically represent meanings in the public domain. Despite this close competition, the delivery of information through monolingual Indonesian still holds a significant portion, accounting for 9% of language use.

### **Language Variations at Kejaksaan Station**

This section explains the linguistic landscape at Kejaksaan Station, covering language contestation, participants, and the purpose of the linguistic landscape. The research data consists of photographs of linguistic signs found at the train station. Texts or messages displayed in public spaces can be categorized into various types, including advertisements, announcements, appeals, warnings, statements, names, and information. This discussion refers to the observations made at Kejaksaan Station.

Based on the data presented in Table 2, a total of 40 data items were obtained in the form of visual images of linguistic signs photographed at Kejaksaan Station. The data were collected from linguistic landscape sources such as (a) name boards, (b) information signage, (c) prohibition and warning signs, and (d) advertising media. Language contestation at Kejaksaan Station is reflected in the languages used on linguistic signs displayed in the station's public spaces. Two languages appear in the linguistic landscape of Kejaksaan Station: Indonesian and English. These languages are used in both monolingual and bilingual forms.

Berikut terjemahan akademik ke dalam bahasa English:

The use of Indonesian as a monolingual language at Kejaksaan Station is reflected in four data items. These were found in three types of linguistic landscape media: informational media, warning and prohibition signs, and advertising media. The use of Indonesian as the sole language is dominated by informational signs, primarily serving an informational function. This data is presented in Table 5.

Table 5. The Linguistic Landscape of the Indonesian Language at Kejaksaan Station

No	Data	Landscape Sources	Category
1	Parkir Motor	Signboards	Place
2	Parkir mobil	Signboards	Place
3	Information stasiun	Signboards	Building

Based on Table 5, it can be observed that the use of the Indonesian language in the linguistic landscape at Kejaksaan Station appears in the form of phrases. These phrases are used in the context of providing locational information. There is no evident language contestation in the use of Indonesian on the linguistic landscape signs at Kejaksaan Station, as Indonesian is applied monolingually. The monolingual Indonesian informational signs are predominantly issued by top-down actors in the linguistic landscape, namely, the Kejaksaan Station authorities. This is evident in Table 5, which presents data on name boards for motorcycle parking, car parking, and information boards at Kejaksaan Station.

The use of English as a monolingual language is found in linguistic landscape data sources such as equipment nameplates and advertising media. According to the data in Table 6, monolingual English appears to be used by top-down linguistic landscape actors. As shown in Table 6, the “EduTrain” signage is presented in English. The EduTrain program is an educational initiative related to railway operations, covering topics such as train boarding procedures, railway facilities and technology, professions within PT KAI, prohibited actions during train travel, and the convenience of ticket booking via the “Access by KAI” application. It also promotes PT KAI’s products and services, as well as safety campaigns aimed at preventing activities near railway tracks and discouraging acts of vandalism, such as throwing objects at trains.

Table 6. The Linguistic Landscape of the English Language at Kejaksaan Station

No	Data	Landscape Sources	Category
1	Edu Train	Information	Place

There is no evident language contestation in the use of Indonesian within the linguistic landscape signs at Kejaksaan Station. This is because Indonesian is used monolingually. The monolingual linguistic landscape signs in Indonesian, which serve an informational function, appear to be produced by top-down linguistic landscape actors – namely, the Kejaksaan Station authorities. This is reflected in Table 6, which presents data related to the EduTrain program aimed at the general public.

The linguistic landscape at Kejaksaan Station also features bilingual language use. The bilingualism observed involves the combination of Indonesian and English. A total of 35 instances of Indonesian-English bilingual usage were identified in the linguistic landscape sources, including name boards, informational media,

directional signs, warning and prohibition signs, as well as advertisements.

Table 7. Indonesian-English Bilingualism in the Linguistic Landscape of Kejaksan Station

No	Data	Landscape Sources	Category
1	Keluar/Exit	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
2	Toilet/Restroom	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
3	Kedatangan/Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
4	Keberangkatan/Departure	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
5	Kedatangan Utara/Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
6	Loket/Ticket Counter	Signboards	Room
7	layanan pelanggan/ Customer service	Signboards	Room
8	Ruang kerja bersama/Co-Working Space	Signboards	Room
9	Pertokoan/Shops	Signboards	Room
10	Restoran/restourant	Signboards	Room
11	ATM/ATM	Signboards	Room
12	Utamakan Keselamatan/Safety First	Warning and Prohibition Media	Warning
13	Zona naik/pick up point	Signboards	Guidance
14	Zona Turun/Drop off	Signboards	Guidance
15	Kedatangan Selatan/Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
16	Musala/Prayer room	Signboards	Room
17	Parkir/Parking	Signboards	Guidance
18	Toilet/Restroom	Signboards	Room
19	Pintu Masuk/Gate	Signboards	Direction
20	Jalur Evakuasi/Evacuation Route	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
21	Pengisi Baterai/Charging Corner	Signboards	Guidance
22	Loket Penjualan langsung/Go Show	Signboards	Room
23	Area Merokok/Smoking Area	Signboards	Guidance
24	Penjualan tiket langsung (go-show)/train tickets for today (go-Show)	Signboards	Guidance
25	Pengubahan Jadwal/ticket reschedulling	Signboards	Guidance
26	Pembatalan tiket/Cancellation	Signboards	Guidance
27	Pengawas Peron/Platform Supervisor	Signboards	Room
28	Plastik/Plastic	Signboards	Equipment
29	Kertas/Paper	Signboards	Equipment

30	Organik/Organic Guidance angkutan lanjutan/Advances transportation information	Signboards Directional and Informational Media	Equipment Guidance
31	Peta jaringan kereta api jawa dan madura/Java and madura railway network map	Directional and Informational Media	Maps
32	Jadwal Kereta/train schedule	Directional and Informational Media	Schedule
33	Dilarang merokok/no smoking barang bawaan anda tidak boleh melebihi ukuran berikut/ Your baggage must not exceed the following dimensions	Warning and Prohibition Media Warning and Prohibition Media	Prohibition Warning
34			
35			

The data in Table 7 represents the use of Indonesian as the primary language, positioned at the top, with English commonly used as a translation placed either below or beside the Indonesian text. The Indonesian-English bilingual linguistic landscape signs, serving informational purposes, are utilized by top-down actors, specifically the authorities of Kejaksaan Station.

Regarding name boards—examples include data numbers 8, 24, and 28 (see Table 7). Data number 8 reads "Ruang Kerja Bersama/Co-Working Space," functioning as an informational sign distinguishing the room according to its intended use. Data number 24, which states "Plastik/Plastic," serves as a label for a trash bin designated exclusively for plastic waste, thereby helping to sort the types of waste materials. Data number 28 reads "Penjualan Tiket Langsung (Go-Show)/Train Tickets for Today (Go-Show)," identifying the ticket counter for immediate purchases. This service is available to passengers intending to buy tickets within two hours before departure.

Other data types include informational signage, as seen in data numbers 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35. Data number 31 refers to a wall-mounted sign displaying "Guidance Angkutan Lanjutan/Advance Transportation Information," which guides passengers in finding further transportation services around the station, whether within Cirebon or beyond. Data number 32 shows a sign presenting the railway network map for Java and Madura, labeled "Peta Jaringan Kereta Api Jawa dan Madura/Java and Madura Railway Network Map." All three signs are produced by public authorities, namely the management of Kejaksaan Station.

Data number 33 is a digital display screen showing "Jadwal Kereta/Train Schedule," which provides information on train arrivals and departures. Data number 34, a warning sign reading "Dilarang Merokok/No Smoking," prohibits smoking within the station premises for all individuals, including visitors, passengers, staff, and employees. Data number 35 contains information regarding baggage size limits for passengers, stating in bilingual form: "Barang Bawaan Anda Tidak Boleh Melebihi Ukuran Berikut/Your Baggage Must Not Exceed the Following

Dimensions." The signs referenced, all pertaining to informational directives, are produced by public authorities – specifically, the Indonesian Railway Company (PT KAI) or Kejaksaan Station management.

### Languages at Prujakan Station

This section discusses the linguistic landscape at Prujakan Station, which includes language contestation, participants, and the purposes of the linguistic landscape. The research data consist of photographs of linguistic signs found at the railway station. Texts or messages displayed in public spaces may be categorized into various types, including advertisements, announcements, appeals, warnings, statements, names, and information. This discussion refers to observations made at Prujakan Station.

Based on the data presented in Table 4, a total of 43 data points were obtained in the form of visual images of linguistic signs captured through photography at Prujakan Station. These data were collected from linguistic landscape sources, namely: (a) name boards, (b) information signage, (c) prohibition and warning signs, and (d) advertisements. Language contestation at Prujakan Station is reflected in the choice of language used on linguistic signs within the area. Two languages are present in the linguistic landscape of Prujakan Station: Indonesian and English. These languages appear either monolingually or bilingually.

The use of Indonesian as a monolingual language at Prujakan Station is represented by four data points. These linguistic landscape sources include three types of media: informational signage, warning and prohibition signs, and advertisements. The use of Indonesian as the sole language is predominantly found in informational signs, reflecting its informational function. The data are presented in Table 8.

**Table 8. Linguistic Landscape of Indonesian Language at Prujakan Station**

No	Data	Landscape Sources	Category
1	Parkir Motor	Signboards	Place
2	Parkir mobil	Signboards	Place
3	Information stasiun	Signboards	Building

Based on Table 8, it can be observed that the use of Indonesian in the linguistic landscape at Prujakan Station appears in the form of phrases. These phrases are employed primarily to convey location-related information. There is no visible language contestation regarding the use of Indonesian in the linguistic signs at Prujakan Station, as the language is used monolingually. The monolingual Indonesian linguistic signs serving informational purposes tend to be installed by top-down agents – namely, the official authorities of Prujakan Station. This is evident in Table 8, which presents data on name boards for motorcycle parking, car parking, and station information.



The linguistic landscape at Prujakan Station also features bilingual signs. The bilingual signs found combine Indonesian and English. A total of 40 instances of bilingual usage were identified from linguistic landscape sources, including name boards, informational media, directional signage, warning and prohibition signs, and advertisements.

**Table 9. Indonesian-English Bilingualism in the Linguistic Landscape at Prujakan Station**

No	Data	Landscape Sources	Category
1	Keluar/Exit	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
2	Toilet/Restroom	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
3	Kedatangan/Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
4	Keberangkatan/Departure	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
5	Kedatangan Utara/Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
6	Loket/Ticket Counter	Signboards	Room
7	layanan pelanggan/ Customer service	Signboards	Room
8	Ruang kerja bersama/ Co-Working Space	Signboards	Room
9	Pertokoan/Shops	Signboards	Room
10	Restoran/restaurant	Signboards	Room
11	ATM/ATM	Signboards	Room
12	Utamakan Keselamatan/ Safety First	Warning and Prohibition Media	Warning
13	Zona naik/ pick up point	Signboards	Guidance
14	Zona Turun/ Drop off	Signboards	Guidance
15	Kedatangan Selatan/ Arrival	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
16	Musala/ Prayer room	Signboards	Room
17	Parkir/ Parking	Signboards	Guidance
18	Toilet/ Restroom	Signboards	Room
19	Pintu Masuk/ Gate	Signboards	Direction
20	Jalur Evakuasi/ Evacuation Route	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
21	Pengisi Baterai/ Charging Corner	Signboards	Guidance
22	Loket Penjualan langsung/ Go Show	Signboards	Room
23	Area Merokok/ Smoking Area	Signboards	Guidance
24	Penjualan tiket langsung (go-show)/ train tickets for today (go-show)	Signboards	Guidance
25	Pengubahan Jadwal/ ticket reschedulling	Signboards	Guidance
26	Pembatalan tiket/ Cancellation	Signboards	Guidance

27	Pengawas Peron/Platform Supervisor	Signboards	Room
28	Plastik/Plastic	Signboards	Equipment
29	Kertas/Paper	Signboards	Equipment
30	Organik/Organic	Signboards	Equipment
31	Guidance angkutan lanjutan/Advances transportation information	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
32	Peta jaringan kereta api jawa dan madura/Java and madura railway network map	Directional and Informational Media	Peta
33	Jadwal Kereta/train schedule	Directional and Informational Media	Jadwal
34	Dilarang merokok/no smoking	Warning and Prohibition Media	Larangan
35	barang bawaan anda tidak boleh melebihi ukuran berikut/ Your baggage must not exceed the following dimensions	Warning and Prohibition Media	Warning
36	Waktu/Time	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
37	Kereta api/Train	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
38	Tujuan/ Bound for	Directional and Informational Media	Direction
39	Peron/Platform	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance
40	Information Keberangkatan KA/Train Departure Information	Directional and Informational Media	Guidance

The data presented in Table 9 show the use of Indonesian as the primary language, typically placed at the top of the sign. English is predominantly used as the translation of the Indonesian text and is positioned below or beside the Indonesian language. The Indonesian-English bilingual linguistic signs serving informational purposes are generally produced by top-down agents, namely, the authorities of Prujakan Station.

Regarding name boards, examples can be seen in data numbers 8, 24, and 28 (see Table 9). Data number 8 displays Ruang kerja bersama/Co-Working Space, used as an information sign to designate and distinguish the room based on its function. Data number 28, which reads Plastik/Plastic, serves as a label for a trash bin designated exclusively for plastic waste, as well as a marker to distinguish between different types of trash. Meanwhile, data number 24 reads Penjualan tiket langsung (go-show)/Train tickets for today (go-show), functioning as a directional sign for the ticket counter offering on-the-spot ticket purchases. This service is available to passengers within two hours before train departure.

Other examples of informational signage can be found in data numbers 31, 32, 33, 34, and 35. Data number 31 refers to a board mounted on the station wall displaying Guidance angkutan lanjutan/Advances transportation information,

intended to help passengers find connecting transportation services around the station to reach their destination, whether within or outside Cirebon. Another example is data number 32, a sign providing route information of train services in Java and Madura, reading Peta jaringan kereta api Jawa dan Madura/Java and Madura railway network map. These two signs are issued by the public authority – in this case, Kejaksan Station authorities.

Data number 33 shows a television screen displaying Jadwal Kereta/Train Schedule, which informs passengers about train arrivals and departures. Data number 34 is a sign reading Dilarang merokok/No smoking, serving as a prohibition for everyone – visitors, passengers, employees, and staff – against smoking inside the station. Data number 35 contains information on baggage measurement standards, with the bilingual message Barang bawaan anda tidak boleh melebihi ukuran berikut/Your baggage must not exceed the following dimensions. From the data obtained, it is clear that the informational signage in the linguistic landscape is produced by public authorities – specifically, PT KAI or the Prujakan Station management.

#### **4. Conclusion**

The findings of this study reveal that the linguistic landscape of Kejaksan and Prujakan Stations in Cirebon is characterized by multilingual practices, predominantly featuring bilingual signage that combines Indonesian and English. The data indicate that most signage in both stations is produced by official authorities, reflecting institutional control over language use in public spaces. Indonesian functions as the national language, fulfilling primarily informational roles, while the presence of English reflects the growing influence of global language practices and internationalization trends in Indonesia. The interaction between these two languages manifests both symbolically and communicatively, highlighting the multilingual identity of the local community and its openness to linguistic and cultural diversity.

However, this study has certain limitations. It focuses solely on two railway stations in Cirebon and primarily analyzes visual language representations without engaging in in-depth interviews with stakeholders or considering the perceptions of station users. These factors may influence the depth and scope of understanding regarding language choice and its social implications. For future research, it is recommended to expand the study to other public spaces in Cirebon or similar urban contexts, incorporate qualitative interviews with community members and station authorities, and explore the impact of linguistic landscapes on language attitudes and identity formation. Such approaches would offer a more comprehensive understanding of the dynamics of multilingualism in Indonesian public spaces.

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