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# LANGUAGE PLAY AND RELIGION

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# LANGUAGE PLAY AND RELIGION

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# Introduction

- Human beings are homo symbolicum, homo loquen, homo sapien, homo luden, etc. By homo ludens, It means that human being is “fond of playing creature” (Cook, 2000: 41; Wijana, 2019: 1; Daeng, 1982: 212).
- In wading across their life, people do many playing activities, even it was said that playing is activity that can not be neglected in human life because it constitutes important part and means to mature them.
- Depending on various factors which might limit them, human beings will create various kinds of games whose forms will always develop according to their age. One of those games is “language play”.

- ◉ In any society that believes in God's power and any kind of power that equals to it, religion seems or would be the most precious life aspect among many other social aspects, such as economy, politics, art, etc.
- ◉ Accordingly, it is not surprising if there many people are willing to sacrifice their souls for defending their faith.

- Therefore, in every occasion in order to spread of religious teachings, people often found the skill of religious leaders, or religious followers in varieties of groups to play language, or linguistic punning which are strongly believed to be true eventhough they do not have adequate knowledges about the origin of linguistic elements they use to play.
- For example: **Deresan > Darus 'belajar' ; Apem > Afuim 'forgiveness', Bagong > Bhago 'just leave it', Petruk > Faturuk 'excessing the limit', Kalimosodo > Kalimat Sahadat 'confession formula', Sleman = Sulaiman.**

- This paper will discuss syncretism phenomena found in group of people deepening Hindu Religion teachings.
- In this regard, it is often found various syncretism phenomena which are playing Sanskrit with Indonesian, Sundanese, and other foreign languages which are actually very difficult to find their interrelatedness.

# Sanskrit and Local Languages

- ◉ AUM > Ang Ung Mang 'Brahma, Wisnu, Siwa' = Maung, Harimau > Onomatope; *Tridatu* 'three kings' symbolic colors dikenal juga dalam budaya Sunda.
- ◉ *Cihedeung, Cibereum, dan Cibodas.*
- ◉ *Hitam, merah, dan putih.*
- ◉ Lambangnya air, tanah, dan api besar yang dapat dihubungkan dengan matahari.

# Indonesian and Sanskrit

Is that right, our country is named Indonesia in accordance with the acronym of Hindu Goddess' names living the nine directions:

1. Iswara (east)
2. Nagendra (north east: Sambu God)
3. Dhganesh (south east: Maheswara God)
4. Ongkara (centre: Siwa God)
5. Nagapasa (west: Mahadewa's weapon)
6. Ersandya (south west: Rudra God)
  
7. Sri Devi (north: the power of Wisnu God)
8. Iwabhaya (north west: Sangkara god)
9. Andaksa (south: Brahma God)



# Indonesian, Local, and Various Foreign Languages

- Sunda = Sunoda. Sunday = the day belong to surya (sun); Monday = the day belong to the moon, etc. Sun = Raditya 'sun' = Radite 'sunday'.
- Area or region concept = “Naga-Ra/Nega-Ra 'country'; Country Symbol = “Bender-Ra” 'flag'; The title of Nusantara Kings = “Ra-Hyang 'kong'; The title of royal family = “Ra-keyan dan Ra-Ha-Dian (Raden); Constitutional concept = Ra-si, Ratu, Ra-ma People = “Ra-Hayat”; Ra is the ancient Egyptian sun god or is short element for the element of Radium.
- An Example of Ra is the Egyptian god who had a hawk head. An Example of Ra is an element that is used by the chemist.

# Balinese, Javanese, Sundanese

- ◉ **Rangda dan randa; Basuki** 'prosperous' > **Besakih** 'mother temple'; **Galungan** 'name of Holliday' and **Gelung** 'fight', etc.
- ◉ **Kuningan** 'name of holliday offering yellow rice' > **kauningan** 'to be reminded'.

# Conclusion

- Language is able to be created to strengthen anything related with religion in its various aspects, such as God with its characteristics, miracles, powers, teachings, approaching practises, prophets and their friends, and holidays to celebrate and respect God greatness.