



## Identifying Old Javanese Eco-lexicon in Ocean Themed Kakawin

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**ABSTRACT:** Eco-lexicon is a lexicon characterized by a natural configuration of meanings, which is relevant to the field of eco-linguistics. Old Javanese kakawin poetry was traditionally associated with kingdoms, but there is now an effort to create kakawin, especially on ocean-themed topics. This development is intriguing and aligns with the research objective, which is to identify the Old Javanese eco-lexicon in kakawin created on the island of Bali. Considering that kakawin employs Old Javanese, which is no longer active as a communicative language, the study utilizes five sources of kakawin data written in Old Javanese, created in 2023. Data were collected through observational methods and analyzed distributionally. The research findings revealed 25 basic forms of eco-lexicons and 9 derived forms in ocean-themed kakawin.

**KEYWORDS:** Eco-lexicon, Old Javanese, Kakawin, Word Formation.

### INTRODUCTION

Kakawin is a literary work used in ceremonies in Bali. In the past, kakawin originated from Java, especially during the kingdom period, but now kakawin is preserved and appreciated in Bali. Kakawin is closely related to cultural, literary, and religious practices, most of which originate from the Sanskrit language, adapted in Indonesia (Creese 1999, p.45). Nowadays, kakawin is still being created by the Balinese community. This classic literary work reflects the current natural conditions, especially the sea. This occurs because the sea conditions in Bali are not good, thus it needs to be expressed in literary works as a reflection for humans regarding natural conditions. This can form a relationship between language and the environment, known as eco-linguistics. Eco-linguistic studies examine the relationship between language and nature, which mutually influence each other. In creating literary works, besides observing the surrounding natural conditions, it is necessary to consider the words used.

Classic literary works have a unique relationship between words, which provide rich and deep dimensions in the experience of reading or listening. Literary works not only function as a medium of communication but also as representations that connect the author with the reader and associate language with information (Hernadi 1976). In literary works, words are chosen specifically to create meanings that influence the reader through nuances, imagery, or emotions. This artistic form serves as a link between surface structure and deeper structures in literary works, demanding readers to use their imagination and associations to understand the deep meanings.

Additionally, words are closely related to the themes expressed in literary works, creating recurring motifs or underlying ideas in narratives or poetry. Complex sentence structures, patterns of repetition, and the use of words that describe characters, from both the narrator's and the characters' perspectives, also form important relationships in classic literary works. Furthermore, the contextual relationship between words and factors such as history, culture, and the environment provides a deeper understanding of the context and purpose of literary works. All of these relationships work together to create deep and complex meanings in classic literary works.

Before delving further into the meanings that influence classic literary works, it is necessary to understand word formation. Word formation is a process in creating or forming words, whether new words that are not in the dictionary or how a word can be produced through the process that occurs.

A word can be formed by one morpheme or a combination of morphemes. Generally, a word is the smallest unit in language, but the smallest unit that carries meaning is the morpheme. Word formation is a field of linguistics called morphology. Word formation focuses on how a word is formed from morphemes. Morphology is the field of linguistics that studies morphemes and their combinations (Kridalaksana 2008, p.129). Each morpheme has its own meaning, and several morphemes can have their meaning changed depending on the words used (Dixon 2005, p.6). Word forms in morphology begin with the existence of base forms and derivative forms based on the processes that occur, such as affixation, composition, reduplication, and abbreviation. The base form is a form that is one level lower than the complex form above it (Simpson 2021, p.18). The base form is hierarchically formed by free morphemes and basic morphemes (Kridalaksana 2007, p.38), so the base form is a form composed of one grammatical unit as well



as a free grammatical unit in a morphological manner. The derivative form is formed by more than one morpheme. The derivative form can appear in other derivative word forms, such as words with affixation, repeated words, and compound words (Kridalaksana 2007, p.43).

The word formation in literary works will be unique, especially in ancient Javanese poetry works known as kakawin. Etymologically, the term "kakawin" is a combination of the Sanskrit word "kawi" meaning 'poet' and the Javanese (old) affixes "ka-" and "-n", indicating 'the work of a poet' or 'poetry written by a poet' (Zoetmulder 1983). According to (Medera 1997, pp.11–12) kakawin is a form of literary work in the form of ancient Javanese poetry. Kakawin is ancient Javanese poetry built in the *wirama* form and bound by the rules of *guru-lagu* (Zoetmulder 1983). *Guru* refers to heavy matters, and *lagu* refers to light matters. *Guru-lagu* serves as a fulfillment of prosody elements in ancient Javanese poetry works. This will affect how word formation occurs in literary works. The creation of kakawin in 2023 will be interesting because it involves creative efforts in forming the words used. This considers the strict rules in the preparation of kakawin, which are regulated by the *guru-lagu*. Thus, there is an adjustment of words to reflect the desired themes and moods, adding uniqueness and relevance to the resulting kakawin, especially works with rare sea themes, so that these works contain marine flora and fauna in the ancient Javanese language as a form of language documentation for readers to understand.

Many word choices with base forms can be found in the dictionary of ancient Javanese, as well as derivative forms. These forms can be found in the kakawin of 2023, which mostly feature sea themes, so that lexicons related to the sea are abundant in both base and derivative forms. The kakawin in 2023 is mostly created by young adults, so the creativity of the writers is very important in choosing word formations due to the restrictions imposed by the *guru-lagu* on the number of syllables used. Some word formations found, such as the word *pěñu*, which is a base form formed by a single free morpheme meaning 'turtle.' Meanwhile, derivative forms are found, such as the word *guñcang-aguñcang*, which comes from the words *guñcang* and *aguñcang*, meaning 'shaking.' These words, both base and derivative forms, need to be analyzed in terms of the formation process as a phenomenon of word choice in the creation of kakawin works in 2023.

Based on the discussion above, further studies are needed regarding word formation, both base and derivative forms, in kakawin literary works in 2023. The objective of this research is to analyze word formation in kakawin literary works in 2023 with a sea thematic focus. Additionally, this study aims to serve as documentation of the ancient Javanese language in terms of lexicons related to flora, fauna, and natural conditions, with a focus on the sea. Therefore, this study is expected to provide information and documentation on marine lexicons in kakawin.

## Literature Review

Puspani and Indrawati (2023) studied lexicons in a musical orchestra. This research explores eco-linguistic studies in the context of language use in the Tihingan Village, Bali Island, where 60% of the population are Pande, who are craftsmen of Gamelan Orchestras. The study aims to understand the types of Balinese language lexicons used by the Pande community in the daily production of musical orchestra products. This research was conducted using field methods, through direct observation and in-depth interviews with craftsmen. A qualitative approach was used to obtain data descriptions, and analysis was conducted descriptively. The results of the research show that there are four types of lexicons used: lexicons related to materials, tools, processes, and products.

Widiatmika et al. (2023) studied flora and fauna lexicons in Balinese songs, titled "On The Examination Of Balinese Cultures Upon Animal And Plant Lexicons In Balinese Songs: An Eco-Linguistics Study," published in the International Journal of Humanity Studies volume 6 number 2. The research conducted by Widiatmika et al. (2023) aims to determine the relationship between Balinese culture and lexicons related to flora and fauna in Balinese songs. To achieve this goal, dialectical eco-linguistic theory was used in the analysis. The results of this study reveal that the animal and plant lexicons used are derived from a symbiotic relationship between the Balinese community and other species around them. This balanced coexistence allows the Balinese community to give meaning to animals and plants in song lyrics based on their cultural values and beliefs. In other words, the harmonious interaction between Balinese people and their environment forms the basis of understanding meanings in the context of these songs.

Wulandari et al. (2022) reviewed compounding and blending related to Covid-19. This study explores word formation in the English language related to the COVID-19 pandemic, particularly through morphological analysis of compound and blended words appearing on Twitter. Using a qualitative approach, this research identifies patterns in the formation of new words that appear in the context of the pandemic. The results of the analysis show that many new words are formed by combining "corona" and "masker," highlighting the role of morphology in creating neologisms relevant to the current situation. Although many words have dominant



connotative meanings, some words also retain their conceptual meanings. This shows how morphology can be a crucial foundation in understanding the evolution of language in response to significant events in society.

Suryati et al. (2018) observed the interaction of one language with another language, leading to a shift in that language. Referring to this phenomenon, this study aims to describe the forms of lexical borrowing and elaborate on the dynamics that occur in the understanding of communities regarding lexical borrowing in the Balinese language. The results of this study found basic forms in the form of free and pre-categorical forms; derivative forms of affixed, reduplicated, and compound forms; and phrase forms. Lexical borrowing was found with categories of 15 nouns, 14 numerals, 17 verbs, and 17 adjectives. The dynamics found by (Suryati et al. 2018) include a decrease in understanding the common name for bananas, which in Bali are generally known to have 16 types of bananas, and 5 new types of banana lexicons were found both in urban and rural areas.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS**

This research was conducted qualitatively. Arikunto (2010) stated that the qualitative approach does not involve the use of numbers in data collection and in interpreting the results. The data were sourced from five kakawins with a sea theme, namely *Kakawin Mañik Sāgara*, *Kakawin Komala Ītaning Sagara*, *Kakawin Jayanāda*, *Kakawin Bhāṣa Samudra Śapatha*, and *Kakawin Tatwa Mr̥trāṇṇwa*. These kakawin uses Old Javanese language written in Balinese script with Latin alphabet transcriptions. It is chosen for its reflection of the sea, embodying themes of the ocean and possessing a plethora of maritime lexicon. From these data sources, data were collected through observation methods and analyzed using the distributional method. The obtained data consisted of base words and derivative words related to the sea. The data were presented with symbols and descriptive sentence forms. The theory used in the analysis is morphology as described by Kridalaksana (2007), which deals with word formation.

**RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

The results of this research revealed 24 base forms and 11 derivative forms of eco-lexicons in ocean themed kakawin. The eco-lexicon forms, especially the base forms can be presented as follows:

**Table 1. Base form of Eco-lexicon in Old Javanese Kakawin**

<i>Base Form</i>		
<i>No</i>	<i>Eco-lexicon</i>	<i>English</i>
1	<i>pěṅṅu</i>	turtle
2	<i>sarpa</i>	snake
3	<i>pay</i>	sting ray
4	<i>běḱěḱem</i>	small fish
5	<i>lěmuru</i>	lemuru
6	<i>cotek</i>	<i>ponyfish</i>
7	<i>grago</i>	krill
8	<i>manol</i>	night sea eagle
9	<i>rob</i>	flood
10	<i>mis</i>	trash
11	<i>tingiri</i>	spanish mackerels
12	<i>layur</i>	ribbon fish
13	<i>kakap</i>	snapper
14	<i>bano</i>	houndfish
15	<i>sudang</i>	small fish
16	<i>dhīwarā</i>	fisherman
17	<i>phala</i>	buah
18	<i>bhoga</i>	makanan
19	<i>jatah</i>	sate
20	<i>sarapah</i>	lawar



21	<i>kuluban</i>	sup
22	<i>gerang</i>	anchovies
23	<i>rakata</i>	crab
24	<i>pasisi</i>	coast

The concept of the base form encompasses units that are foundational within a linguistic framework, ranging from singular entities to more intricate constructions. As elucidated by Ramlan (1985, p.45), these base forms play a pivotal role in establishing the groundwork for larger linguistic structures. Within the scope of the provided table, it becomes evident that base forms predominantly comprise single morphemes, specifically free morphemes. What distinguishes these base forms is their inherent semantic content; they possess meaning autonomously, laying the groundwork for the formation of words and more complex linguistic expressions. This characteristic underscores the fundamental role of base forms in linguistic analysis, serving as the elemental building blocks for communication and language comprehension. Through the examination of base forms, we gain valuable insights into the structural foundations of language and the mechanisms underlying linguistic expression.

The fundamental structure of the sentences within the text predominantly revolves around the category of nouns (N), as indicated by Van Valin (2001, p.6). Nouns, serving as a linguistic category, encompass both general and specific entities. This inclusion occurs because most nouns in the text refer to objects or animals present in the natural world. Moreover, within the context of the kakawin, nouns fulfill crucial roles by occupying both subject and object positions.

The derivative forms of eco-lexicons found in thematic sea kakawins total 11 forms. These derivative forms can be displayed in the following table.

**Table 2. Derived Form of Eco-lexicon in Old Javanese Kakawin**

<i>Derived Form</i>			
<i>No.</i>	<i>Eco-lexicon</i>	<i>English</i>	<i>Derived Form</i>
1	<i>guñcang-aguñcang</i>	shaking	reduplication
2	<i>hyu prang</i>	sword fish	composition
3	<i>kurma raja</i>	king of turtle	composition
4	<i>minagöng</i>	whale	composition
5	<i>wudang barong</i>	lobster	composition
6	<i>mamukět</i>	fishing with seine	affixation
7	<i>mamaring</i>	netting	affixation
8	<i>winaséhan</i>	washed	affixation
9	<i>hingolaha</i>	will be prepare	affixation

**Reduplication**

Reduplication, within linguistics, refers to a process by which a lexeme, or a basic unit of meaning in a language, undergoes transformation into a more complex word through the repetition of all or part of it (Kridalaksana 2007, p.45). This phenomenon is prevalent in many languages across the world and serves various linguistic functions. Reduplication can involve repeating the entire word or just a part of it, such as a syllable or morpheme, and it often results in alterations in meaning, emphasis, or grammatical function.

(1) *guñcang-aguñcang*

As depicted in the table above, *guñcang-aguñcang* is recognized as a form of reduplication that constructs a verb. The pattern of reduplication can be outlined as follows:

$$V \ a + R \ \longrightarrow \ V$$

Traditionally, reduplication involves the repetition of either free morphemes or affixed morphemes in their base form. However, the structure of *guñcang-aguñcang*\* deviates from this norm. Here, the repetition occurs at the beginning, whereas conventionally it should occur at the end following affixation. The base form of the word is *guñcang*, which is prefixed with /a-/ to yield *aguñcang*.



Ideally, the appropriate repetition should be *aguñcang-guñcang*. Nevertheless, in Old Javanese kakawin, this linguistic convention is disregarded to conform to the prosodic requirements of *guru-lagu*.

## Composition

Composition refers to the amalgamation of basic morphemes, both free and bound, to form constructions imbued with distinct or novel lexical identities (Kridalaksana 2007, p.44). It involves the fusion of linguistic elements at their most fundamental level, resulting in the creation of words or phrases that convey specific meanings beyond the sum of their constituent parts.

The data above indicates that four forms of composition are identified, namely *hyu prang*, *kurma raja*, *minagöng*, and *wudang barong*. These forms can be elaborated as follows.

### (2) *hyu prang*

In the lexicon of *hyu prang*, two composition constructions are identified, showcasing the intricate process of lexical formation within language. The term *hyu prang* exemplifies this phenomenon, comprised of the constituent elements *hyu* and *prang*. These elements, *hyu* signifying 'shark' and *prang* denoting 'fight, combat, battle' as per the Old Javanese dictionary (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011), undergo a process of composition themselves, each originating from two individual words.

$N+V \longrightarrow N$

Analyzing further, *hyu* is categorized as a noun, indicating a static entity, while *prang* functions as a verb, suggesting action or dynamic behavior. This juxtaposition underscores the complex interplay between nominal and verbal elements within the structure of the compound. When merged, these elements form the compound *hyu prang*, yielding the meaning 'swordfish,' which interestingly falls under the noun category. This semantic shift from action to entity exemplifies the transformative power of composition in language, where disparate morphemes converge to convey nuanced concepts.

### (3) *kurma raja*

The formation of the lexicon *kurma raja* is a type of composition consisting of the elements *kurma* and *raja*, thus classified as a composition of two elements with the noun class, creating a new linguistic unit. In this composition, *kurma* serves as the head of the phrase within the *kurma raja* lexicon composition. *Kurma* mean 'tortoise, turtle' and *raja* mean 'king'.

$N+N \longrightarrow N$

The term *kurma* means 'tortoise', which falls under the lexical category of noun, while *raja* means 'king', also belonging to the lexical category of noun. The formation of this composition, *kurma raja*, creates a word that means 'king turtle' or 'king tortoise'. *Kurma raja* referring to a tortoise of large size that form a noun category.

### (4) *minagöng*

The word *minagöng* is the result of a composition of the words *mina* and *göng*. These words originate from Old Javanese. The word *mina* means 'fish', categorizing it as a noun, while the word *göng* means 'big' or 'with great', occupying the lexical category of adjectives. This composition can be described as follows:

$N+Adj \longrightarrow N$

where *göng* describes *mina*, wherein *mina* receives an adjective indicating 'big fish'. *Mina* (N) undergoes blending with *göng* (Adj), and this combination forms a new word, *minagöng*, which belongs to the lexical category of nouns. The word *minagöng* means 'big fish', depicting a large animal, which is a whale. This occurs because direct references to large animals such as whales and dugongs are believed to bring calamity in the ocean.

### (5) *wudang barong*

The name of eco-lexicon *wudang barong* in the morphological construction is considered a composition. The compositional form of this lexicon consists of two elements, namely *wudang* and *barong*. Both elements constitute the name of this lexicon. *Wudang* and *barong* belong to the Balinese language. *Wudang* means 'shrimp' and *barong* means 'barong'. These two words considered into the lexical category of nouns, forming a new noun. This process creates the meaning of a shrimp-shaped barong, but this form refers to a type of shrimp known as a lobster. These process can be shown as follow.

$N+N \longrightarrow N$

The combination of *wudang* as a noun blending with *barong* as another noun results in the formation of a new word, *wudang barong*, which refers to a lobster. This linguistic process involves blending the meanings of the two words, giving rise to a term that signifies a shrimp-shaped *barong*, yet denotes the specific type of crustacean known as a lobster.





## Affixation

Affixation, as described by Kridalaksana (2007, p.44), constitutes a fundamental linguistic process wherein a lexeme undergoes transformation to form a complex word. This phenomenon involves the addition of affixes—prefixes, suffixes, or infixes—to a base word, altering its meaning or grammatical function. Affixation allows for the expansion of vocabulary by incorporating affixes to modify the root word's semantic content or grammatical role. The affixation forms identified in this study amount to four, namely *mamuket*, *mamaring*, *winasehan*, and *hingolaha*.

### (6) *mamuket*

The eco-lexicon of *mamuket* construction is formed through the process of affixation. Affixation is one of the morphological constructions that combines affixes with other morphemes (Kridalaksana 2007). The affix used is the prefix /ma-/. The affixation process occurs in the phrase *mamuket*, which is described as follows.

*ma+puket* → *mamuket*

The word *mamuket* is formed by the prefix *ma-* and the base form *puket* which means 'seine'; this formation should be *mapuket*\*. However, in its formation, a morphophonemic process occurs. The process that occurs is assimilation. Assimilation occurs when the affix *ma-* is combined with a base morpheme that begins with the phoneme /p/ (Kridalaksana 2007, p.197). Thus, the form *mapuket*\* becomes *mamuket*, where the syllable /p/ assimilates to /m/. The addition of the affix *ma-* changes the word class of the base form "puket" from a noun to a verb. This change involves derivational affixation, where the lexical category of the noun "puket" shifts to a verb after being affixed with *ma-*.

### (7) *mamaring*

The morphological process occurring in the word *mamaring* is affixation. The affixation identified is the prefix /ma-/. The formation of the word "mamaring" can be illustrated as follows:

*ma+waring* → *mamaring*

The term "mamaring" emerges from the attachment of the prefix /ma-/ to the root *waring*, which signifies 'net'. Initially, this formation would be expected to yield *mawaring*. However, during its creation, a morphophonemic process occurs. Nasalization takes place on the semi-vowel /w/ becoming /m/, resulting in the formation of the word *mamaring*, meaning 'netting using waring.' However, *mawaring* is not found in the corpus; instead, *mamaring* is found. Hence, both forms can be considered as allomorphs. This is evidenced by the morphological process in the word *warih*, which, when affixed with *ma-*, remains *mawarih*. Similarly, in the words *mamaca*, *mawacana* 'to speak,' *mawada* 'to quarrel, have a row,' and *mawade* 'to offer for sale' (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011). This discovery proves that the form *mawaring* is acceptable. This also occurs due to the fulfillment of the prosody of the teacher's song in kakawin. This affixation alters the lexical category of the base form *waring*, which fills the lexical category of Nouns. The addition of this prefix changes the lexical category from noun to verb. Thus, this prefix is a derivational type that changes the lexical category.

### (8) *winasehan*

Eco-lexicon *winasehan* is included in one of the morphological processes. The process that occurs involves affixation, specifically two affixation processes: the addition of infix /-in-/ and suffix /-an/. These two processes can be described as follows.

*w+in+aseh+an* → *winasehan*

The basic form of *winasehan* is *waseh*, meaning 'water for washing' (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011). The formation process begins with the addition of the infix /-in-/, resulting in *winaseh*, meaning 'to wash, cleanse, purify' (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011). The formation of the word *winaseh* is still in the form of an active word. To change the active form to passive, thus fulfilling the meaning of 'washed', the suffix /-an/ needs to be added. This results in the derived form *winasehan* 'washed'. The affixation process occurring here is of an inflectional type, which does not alter the lexical category of the base form; verbs remain verbs.

### (9) *hingolaha*

The lexicon associated with morphological processes is exemplified by the word of *hingolaha*. Affixation processes are observed in the derivation of the word *hingolaha*, featuring the infix /-in-/ and the suffix /-a/. This process can be delineated as follows.

*(h)+in+(ng)olah+a* → *hingolaha*

The basic form of *hingolaha* originates from *olah*, signifying 'action, conduct' (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011). The insertion of the infix /-in-/ leads to *inolah*, showcasing nasal velarization in the transition from /n/ to /ŋ/. However, both *ingolah* and *inolah* function as allomorphs, sharing the meaning 'to prepare, cook' (Zoetmulder and Robson 2011). The inclusion of /h/ in *hingolah* may



vary, considering that one character in Old Javanese and Balinese scripts represents the same sound. Moreover, the addition of the suffix /-a/ to *hingolah* gives rise to *hingolaha*, where the suffix /-a/ in Old Javanese signifies *arealis* or future tense, conveying the notion of 'will be prepared'. The affixation process is categorized as inflectional, wherein the base form's lexical category remains unchanged, ensuring that verbs retain their verb status.

## CONCLUSION

Based on the research findings, 34 marine-themed eco-lexicons were identified, consisting of 25 basic forms filling the lexical category of nouns. Meanwhile, 9 derived forms were discovered, involving three processes: reduplication, composition, and affixation. The most abundant data were found in compositional forms, which categorize nouns describing the biodiversity of marine fauna. Uncommon forms were also found in this kakawin, serving the purpose of prosodic fulfillment.

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