KINSHIP TERMS OF ADDRESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY SPEAKING IN THE HOKKIEN GEK DIALECT OF CHINESE

A THESIS

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By:

NANY WIJAYA SOEPARDIANTO

NRP : 1213091039

UNIVERSITAS KATOLIK WIDYA MANDALA SURABAYA
FAKULTAS KEGURUAN DAN ILMU PENDIDIKAN
JURUSAN PENDIDIKAN BAHASA DAN SENI
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This thesis entitled: **KINSHIP TERMS OF ADDRESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY SPEAKING IN THE HOKKIEN GEK DIALECT OF CHINESE** are prepared and submitted by **NANY WIJAYA SOEPARDIANTO** has been approved and accepted as partial fulfillment of the requirement for Sarjana Pendidikan Degree in English Language Teaching by the following advisor:

**DR. Wuri Soedjatmiko**
Advisor
This thesis has been examined by the committee of oral examination with a grade of A on July 12, 1996

Drs. Stefanus Laga Tukan, M.Pd
Chairman

DR. Wuri Soedjatmiko
Member

Drs. B. Budiyono, M.Pd
Member

Drs. B. Himawan Setyo W
Member

Approved by

Drs. Antonius Gurito
Dean of the Teacher Training College

Dra. Magdalena I. Kartio, M.A
Head of the English Department
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# TABLE OF CONTENTS

Abstract.................................................................................................................. i
Approval Sheet 1 ..................................................................................................... ii
Approval Sheet 2 ..................................................................................................... ii
Acknowledgments ................................................................................................... iii
Table of Contents ................................................................................................... iv
List of Tables .......................................................................................................... vii

I. INTRODUCTION.
1.1. Background of the Study .............................................................................. 1
1.2. Statement of the Problem ............................................................................. 2
1.3. Objective of the Study .................................................................................. 2
1.4. Significance of the Study ............................................................................. 3
1.5. Scope and Limitation of the Study ............................................................... 3
1.6. Theoretical Framework ................................................................................ 3
1.7. Definition of Key Terms .............................................................................. 4
1.8. Organization of the Paper ............................................................................ 6

II. REVIEW OF RELATED LITERATURE
2.1. Theoretical Framework
   2.1.1. Sociolinguistics ..................................................................................... 7
   2.1.2. Language and Dialect ......................................................................... 9
2.1.3. Kinship Terms of Address .................. 11
2.1.4. Role Relationship .......................... 13
2.1.5. The Nature of Hokkien Gek dialect of Chinese ........................................ 14
2.1.6. The Description of Chinese Tradition .... 16

III. RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
3.1. The Nature of the Study ....................... 20
3.2. The Informants .................................. 21
3.3. The Background of the Informants .......... 21
3.4. The Research Instrument ........................ 23
3.5. The Procedures of Collecting the Data ..... 23
3.6. The Procedures of Analyzing the Data ...... 24

IV. DATA SOURCE AND DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS
4.1. The Data Source ............................... 26
4.1.1. The First Data Source (Conversation) 26
4.1.2. The Second Data Source (Conversation) ... 30
4.1.3. The Third Data Source (Conversation) .... 35
4.1.4. The Fourth Data Source (Conversation) .... 39
4.2. Data Analyses ........................................... 43
  4.2.1. The Kinship Terms in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese Used by the First Informant ................. 43
  4.2.2. The Kinship Terms in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese Used by the Second Informant ............. 49
  4.2.3. The Kinship Terms in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese Used by the Third Informant .......... 55
  4.2.4. The Kinship Terms in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese Used by the Fourth Informant .......... 61
  4.3. The Discussion of the Findings ..................... 67
  4.4. Discussion ............................................ 77

V. CONCLUSION
  5.1. Summary .................................................. 82
  5.2. Suggestions ............................................ 84
  Bibliography .................................................. 86
  Appendix 1 .................................................... 88
  Appendix 2 .................................................... 90
  Appendix 3 .................................................... 96
# LIST OF TABLES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tables</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4.1. Kinship Terms for Father-Side of the First Informant.</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.2. Kinship Terms for Mother-Side of the First Informant.</td>
<td>46</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.3. Kinship Terms for Father-Side of the Second Informant.</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.4. Kinship Terms for Mother-Side of the Second Informant.</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.5. Kinship Terms for Father-Side of the Third Informant.</td>
<td>56</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.6. Kinship Terms for Mother-Side of the Third Informant.</td>
<td>58</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.7. Kinship Terms for Father-Side of the Fourth Informant.</td>
<td>62</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.8. Kinship Terms for Mother-Side of the Fourth Informant.</td>
<td>65</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.9. Kinship Terms of Address for Members of a Family and Relatives in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese for father-side.</td>
<td>68</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.10. Kinship Terms of Address for Members of a Family and Relatives in the Hokkien Gek Dialect of Chinese for mother-side.</td>
<td>71</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.11. Table of difference of kinship terms of address.</td>
<td>77</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ABSTRACT

KINSHIP TERMS OF ADDRESS FOR MEMBERS OF THE CHINESE COMMUNITY SPEAKING IN THE HOKKIEN GEK DIALECT OF CHINESE.

This study concerns with the kinship terms used by members of the Chinese community speaking in the Hokkien Gek dialect of Chinese. The writer is interested in doing this study because in some languages, such as English for example, one term of address, like uncle, is used to address father's brothers and mother's brothers. This is totally different from the Hokkien Gek dialect of Chinese. In this dialect, there are several terms used to address 'uncle' and these terms are unfamiliar for speakers of English. Apart from that, the speakers of this dialect are very few and the fact that the writer comes from a Hokkien Gek Chinese Indonesian family are the strong points why the writer chose this topic. Based on the reason above, the statement of the problems are formulated as follows: What the terms used to address one's family and relatives in the Hokkien Gek dialect of Chinese are and why someone uses particular terms of address.

The theories underlying this study are sociolinguistics, dialect and language, kinship terms of address, role relationships and Hokkien Gek dialect of Chinese. Apart from that the writer also presents the description of Chinese tradition concerning this study.

This study is a qualitative study because it does not concern with numeric terms and its design involves a subjective description of the research topic. This study is carried out not to test a hypothesis about a linguistic, but only to describe an existing phenomenon.

Concerning the limited funds, energy and time available, the writer chose four subjects from four different Hokkien Gek families who live in Surabaya. They are chosen under the assumption that they still use this dialect in their communication and address their families and relatives using this dialect.

Using a hidden tape-recorder, the four subjects were interviewed once. After getting the data, the writer transcribed the conversations in order to pick out what the terms used to address their families and relatives.
The writer also would like to find out what the reasons of using those terms are. After analyzing the data, the writer made a list of terms of address in this dialect. Besides she was also able to gather the reasons why certain terms are used to address the four subjects, family and relatives. The major reason why those terms are used is the subjects want to show respect to elder families and relatives. They also say, by using appropriate kinship terms, they would like to show affinity. From the data, the writer also found a little difference in addressing done by the third subject. After being analyzed, it is known that the difference is only a variant.

The writer suggests that next researchers do the research about kinship terms in other dialects and other topics concerning sociolinguistics. Moreover, she suggests that more books and references on sociolinguistics be provided in the library to make next researchers do the research easier.