

CI ON PLACE NAMES IN BANTEN PROVINCE

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ABSTRACT

Ci is the most favorite prefix found in many place names in Serang, Banten Province. Etymologically, ci is derived from the word cai, which means water or something related to or similar to water. This paper is aimed to investigate the toponymic pattern in Banten province and the lexical meaning of each place name begins with ci. For many years, the use of ci on place names has become the latest trend in the Banten toponymic system. Because a place name usually contains information about the history of the people, migration, and identity, the meaning of place names becomes important for the people who live in that place. This paper explains the lexical meaning of nama kelurahan or sub-district names in Banten. This study uses a qualitative approach by applying toponymy theories from a linguistics perspective. 1565 names are the source of data but only 224 names (with prefix ci-) are analyzed by using linguistic theories. Results show that the literal meaning of 224 place names begin with ci can be classified into 8 categories (plant-names or floronyms, animal names/faunonyms, colors, hydronyms, food-names, adjectives, activities/verbs, and sea transportation). Meanwhile, the pattern of toponymic systems in Banten province can be formulated as (1) ci + x, (2) ci + (a) + x, and (3) ci + x + (a).

Keywords: *Toponymy of Serang, sub-district names, lexical meaning*

INTRODUCTION

This paper aims to find the literal meaning of place names and all toponymic patterns in Banten province. The observation was made due to data collection and the result of this observation shows that many place names in Banten province begin with *ci*; originally derived from a Sundanese word that means water or something related to water (Rigg, 1862). In some districts, like Lebak and Pandeglang, *ci* is the most popular word used in naming a place e.g. Cidadap, Ciakar, Cibeureum, Ciherang, Cimoyan, Cibadak, Cigeulis, etc. Over the years, the use of *ci* as a place name forms an interesting pattern in the toponymic system of Indonesia, especially in Banten, one of the young provinces in the Republic of Indonesia. Banten is situated in the very west of Java Island. Formerly, Banten was a part of the province of West Java. However, in 2000, it was separated and made into a new province named Banten province. From the massive use of the word *ci* as place names, it can be seen that a place name could bring much information and also history from the past to the future. It reflects and relates the Sundanese people in the past with those who live in the present. But, is there any distinction between the uses of *ci* in the Banten area with other provinces? The researchers try to find the answer through this research.

The study of place names has a very broad scope. The study of place names or toponymy (Toponomastics/Toponymy) can be viewed from various points of view e.g. history, philosophy, linguistics, anthropology, sociolinguistics, and psycholinguistics. Toponymy is an onomastics sub-discipline that discusses the development, origin, and distribution of topographical geographic names (Perdana, 2019). The role of toponymy is very important in people's lives, especially in the fields of cartography, geography, history, and language. Toponymy can help reveal various things about the movement or movement of a group of people from time to time. Toponym can also be used as a tool to see patterns of cultural exchange in different periods (Tichelaar, 2002).

Toponyms are the linguistic signs of a natural language denoting certain fragments of topographic space (Urazmetova & Shamsutdinova, 2017). These linguistic signs form a system, called a toponymic system, which is artificially contractual. Toponyms are also a kind of repositories of political, social, and cultural views of the society which display certain language trends and peculiarities of word-formation. Toponyms make up a significant part of the lexical fund of the language. According to Gelling (2000), place names are an important part of our geographical and cultural environment. They identify geographical entities of different kinds and represent irreplaceable cultural values of vital significance to the people's sense of well-being and feeling at home. Therefore, place names are of major social

importance. Society must also bear the responsibility for taking care of the place-name heritage. The function of the place-name is to preserve the cultural heritage and protect them in a rapidly changing society.

Gelling (2000) classifies toponymy according to these principles:

1. Parametric characteristics of an object.
2. Ontological characteristics of an object.
3. Type of toponymic basis.
4. Etymological characteristics of place names.
5. Motivational characteristics of place names.
6. Chronological characteristics of place names.
7. Structural characteristics of toponyms.
8. Toponymic polysemy.
9. Degree of toponymic nomination.
10. Variety of toponymic nominations.
11. Localization of an object.

Toponyms represent language units denoting elements of the topographic environment. Place names have a complicated and multidimensional nature, which should be taken into account while classifying them. Place names act as mnemonic devices, embodying histories, spiritual and environmental knowledge, and traditional teachings (UNCSGN, 2002). In Banten, most of the place names could equally well be Sundanese or Javanese in origin. For some names, the sources used to give only one of the languages, but as Gelling (2000: 115) has noted, the similarities between vocabularies of the languages make it often very difficult to decide whether a name is wholly Sundanese or Javanese.

Etymologically, *ci* comes from the word *cai* which means water or something related to water. In A Dictionary of the Sunda Language (Rigg, 1862), *Chai* was described as (1) water; abbreviated into *Chi*, means a river, and as such is placed before the proper names of rivers as *Chidurian*, *Chidani*; (2) *Chi*, a contraction of the word *Chai*, water or river; (3) As *Chi* it is used in composition and prefixed to the names of rivers, as *Chidani*, *Chidurian*. From these descriptions, we know that *chi* can function as a prefix when it is attached to another word to form a place name.

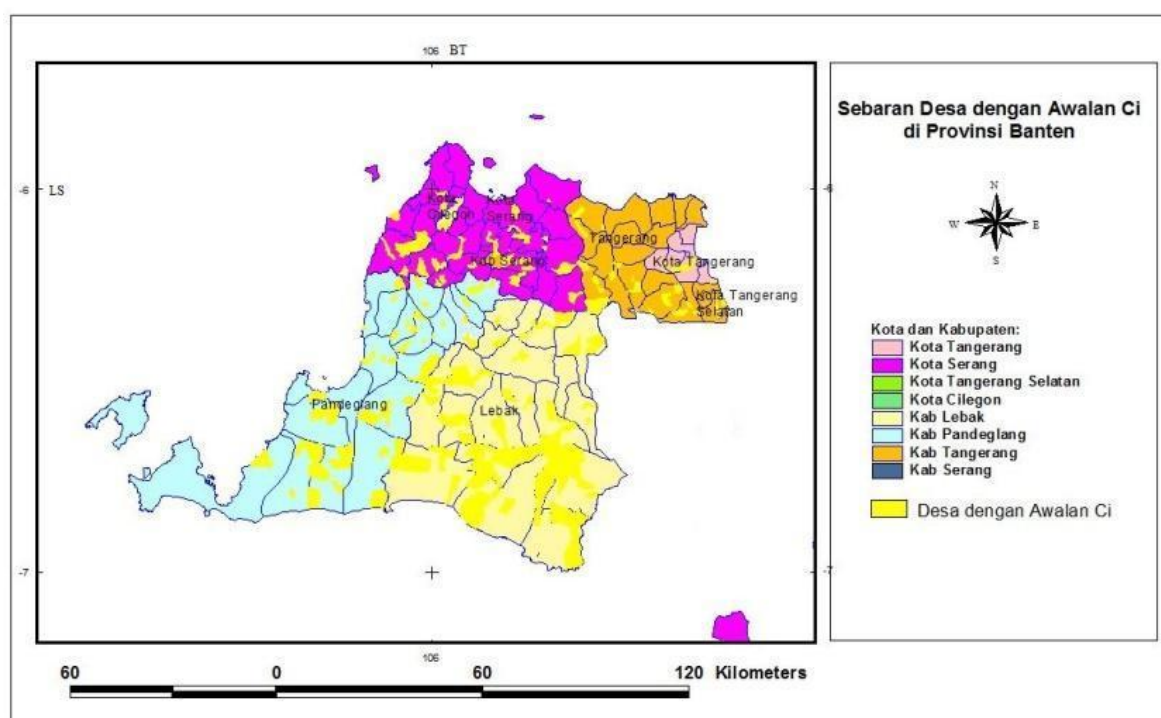
Since place names generally contain important information in the form of history, migration, and the identity of the people, the meaning of each name becomes important for those who live there. The naming system in Banten province is very unique. There are 1565 *kelurahan* or sub-districts in Banten while 224 of the names use *ci* as the prefix. As an example, *Cinangka*, a *kelurahan* or sub district which is located in the district of Serang, is derived from the word *ci* and *nangka*. This place-name can be analyzed firstly from its morphology aspect: *ci* + *nangka*. Both are free morphemes, *ci* functions as a prefix (Rigg, 1862) while *nangka* is a noun. Next, *cinangka* can be analyzed based on its semantic aspect by checking its literal meaning through a dictionary. Both Sundanese and Javanese people have been familiar with the meaning of *nangka*. In Rigg (1862), *nangka* or the Jack tree, *Artocarpus iutegrifolia*, belongs to the family of *Urticeae*. People are also familiar with *Nangka-beurit*, a variety of the Jack fruit which is long and round. Jack fruits can be found everywhere in the mountains. After analyzing this name we can conclude that the area was named after the fruit, *nangka*, or jackfruit. So this is the first toponymic pattern found in Banten province and we can put this place-name into groups or categories. We can classify *cinangka* into *floranim*. Floranim is all names that have a correlation or relate to flora, plants, or fruits. The following is a table that shows us the number of districts and sub-districts in Banten province (Source: bantenprov.go.id).

Table 1. List of Sub-Districts/Villages Names Begin with *Ci*

No	Districts/Cities		Districts	Sub-districts/villages	Sub-districts/villages with <i>ci</i>
1	District	Serang	29	326	29
2		Tangerang	29	274	23
3		Lebak	28	346	89
4		Pandeglang	35	352	54
5	City	Tangerang	13	104	12

6	Cilegon	8	43	5
7	Tangerang Selatan	7	54	5
8	Serang	6	66	7
Total		155	1565	224

The table above shows that there are 155 districts and 1565 sub-districts and villages in Banten province. Generally, all districts in Banten have places that begin with *ci*. This trend can be found in most of the Banten area but, according to data, place-name beginning with *ci* is highly dominant in the district of Lebak (89 *kelurahan*). In contrast, the use of *ci* in big cities, like Tangerang Selatan and Cilegon, is decreasing. The following map shows the widespread use of *ci* as a prefix on place names.



Picture 1. *Ci* on place names in Banten province

The element of *ci* on place names can be caused by the influence of the Sundanese language. It is known that once, Banten was a part of the West Java province. Because of this reason, almost all of the Banten area follow the toponymic system of West Java. However, the conditions of Banten people are different. The people who live in Banten are not only Sundanese, we can find many Javanese people inside Banten, especially those in the city center that is nearer to DKI Jakarta, the capital city of Indonesia. This position influences the name of places. We can check the map above that shows the spread of place names begin with *ci*. The map shows place names begin with *ci* are dominated in the south area of Banten, mostly in Lebak and Pandeglang since the two of the areas are dominated by Sundanese speakers. On contrary, the use of *ci* in the north area is less. It occurs since the north area of Banten is where most of the speakers are Java-Banten Dialect (Suharsih, 2019).

RESEARCH METHOD

This research aims to investigate the lexical meaning of every place-name begin with *ci* while the findings will guide us to the original toponymic pattern of Banten province. Research is based on 1565 *kelurahan* (sub-districts) and villages' names, while 224 names among them are identified as place-names begin with *ci*. Names were taken from the list of *Kodepos* published by the post office. 1565 names are the source of data but only 224 names (with prefix *ci*-) are analyzed by using linguistic theories. This research uses a qualitative approach. The methodology includes the methods of descriptive analysis, which consists of collecting and systematizing the collected facts, in their logical comprehension and identification of specific patterns. A taxonomic method as a variant of the descriptive method is used

for the categorization of toponymic units into certain classes and subclasses. Since place-name is a linguistic product built up by words, the analysis of every place-name involves semantic and historical aspects. The researchers analyze not only the words and how they are combined as names, but the analysis also focuses on their lexical meaning. The lexical meaning of each name was collected by using the dictionary as the reference. Here the researchers use the library research method in collecting the meaning of every name. At the end of the process, all names were categorized based on their meaning to find the toponymy pattern of Banten province.

ANALYSIS

A name is a unit of language. The meaning of a name can be found by analyzing the etymology and the meaning of the name (Durkin, 2009). In the etymology approach, analyzing the process of a name forming is used to find the root, history, and origin of the name. Besides, the cultural tradition of an ethnic group can be explained through name (Sibarani, 2004). Based on the analysis, the literal meaning of 224 place-names, which reflect the nature of the toponymic system in Banten, can be classified as; (1) plant-names or floronyms, (2) animal names/faunonyms, (3) colors, (4) hydronyms, (5) food-names, (6) adjectives, (7) activities/verbs, and (8) sea transportation. The explanation is as follows:

1. Plant-names or floronyms

From 224 data, 45 place names correlate with plants or flowers (the list can be seen below). However, the lexical meaning of these 45 place names can be categorized into fruits/trees, herbs, and flowers.

- a. Fruits/Vegetables: *Cikandondong, Cikadu, Cibuah, Cijeruk, Cinangka, Cipare, Cipete, Cipete, Cikadu, Cihuni, Cijeruk, Cijengkol.*
- b. Trees/Herbs: *Citangkil, Ciladaeun, Ciakar, Cicaringin, Cikaret, Cisereh, Cipinang, Cisalam, Ciawi.*
- c. Flowers: *Cibungur, Cimagang, Cibungur, Cisoka, Cibungur, Cidapap.*

The analysis of *Cikadu* is started from its morphemes. *Cikadu* is derived from *ci* and *kadu* (*ci* + *kadu*). Sundanese or Javanese people have been familiar with the meaning of *kadu*; *durian*, a fruit (Rigg, 1862).

2. Animal-names or faunonyms

Fourteen place names correlate to animals or fauna. *Cikotok, Cibadak, Cikamunding, Cikuya, Cibadak, Cikuya, Cimanuk, Cibadak, Cikalong, Ciwedus, Cirangkong, Ciodeng, Cimaung, Cibetok* are the examples. *Cikamunding* is derived from *ci* + *ka* + *munding* while *munding* means buffalo. Sundanese people have been familiar with buffalo or *kébo*. 'Ka' which is inserted in the name functions as a preposition. It might be related to the place where the animals usually take a bath or *kubangan*. From the name *Cikamunding* which means 'water of buffalo', the writers found that 'buffalo' is one of the important animals in Banten province. These animals may help farmers in plowing rice fields. Besides, buffaloes are also served as a meal *rabeg* when Ied *lebaran* or other festivals are held.

3. Colors

Fourteen place names denote to colors; *Cibereum, Cibodas, Cikoneng, Cibodas, Cibodas biru, Cibeureum, Cibodas, Ciwarna, Cigelam, Ciherang, Ciherang*. As the example, *Cikoneng*, derived from the word '*ci*' + '*koneng*' while *koneng* means yellow. We assume that the name *koneng* refers to the color of the water that looks yellowish.

4. Hydronyms

Nine place names refer to hydronyms: *Cipayung, Cihujan, Cipayung, Ciminyak, Cikedung, Cisaat, Citeluk, Ciwaduk, and Cisitu*. As the example, *cihujan* derived from *ci* + *hujan*. *Cihujan* means rain or *air hujan*.

5. Food-names

Two place names belong to this category; *Cigemblong* and *Cisangu*. Both refer to food made from rice. These foods proved that, for most Banten people, consuming rice is a must; it functions as a staple food. Another example is the name *cigemblong*. Morphologically, this name is derived from 'ci' + 'gemblong'. Gemblong is a traditional food made from rice served with sugar. Besides, *cisangu* also refers to 'rice' since the word *sangu* means rice. Sang'u; boiled rice (Rigg, 1862). As *cisangu* and *cigemblong* have similar references, these names show us that Banten is an agricultural area for many years.

6. Adjectives

Fifteen names are found as adjective; *Ciherang*, *Ciherang*, *Cibarani*, *Cipanas*, *Cimanis*, *Ciabarani*, *Ciherang*, *Cigeulis*, *Ciherang*, *Cidikit*, *Cigandeng*, *Cigoong*, *Ciherangjaya*, *Cikate*, and *Cipaeh*. The name *cipaeh* is derived from 'ci' + 'paeh'. *Paeh* means dead. We assumed that the word *Cipaeh* relates to 'the water was not being used anymore/the water was dry'.

7. Activities or verbs

From the list of names, we found only one name that relates to this criterion; *Cimoyan*. It is derived from ci + *moyan*. *Moyan* in Sundanese means sun-bathing or *panas-panasan*. This literal meaning refers to human activities. It relates to the Serang people's routine; they are used to sit out directly in the sunlight each morning around 8 to 10 a.m. This activity is due to a healthy purpose, to keep their body fit night and day.

8. Sea transportation

One name that relates to transportation is *Ciparahu* (ci + *parahu*). *Parahu* means boat, wooden boat. *Ciparahu* is located in Cihara, the district of Lebak. Geographically, this place directly faces the sea in the south of Banten province. In this area, most of the people work as fishermen who own boats. Boats are used to catch fish in the middle of the ocean. That is why the place is known as *Ciparahu*.

After analyzing the lexical meaning of *ci* place names, three toponymic patterns of Banten province are formulated as below;

ci + X (1)
ci + (a) + X (2)
ci + X + (a) (3)

Most place names follow this classic pattern (1): **ci + X**. In Rigg (1862), *ci* is used in composition and prefixed to the names of rivers, as *Chidani*, *Chidurian*, etc. From that explanation, we conclude that *ci* has a function as a prefix when attached to another word (variable X) to form a place name. 213 place names belong to this pattern or 95% of the total sum. However, only 5 names apply the second pattern: **ci + (a) + X**, while (a) can be a preposition as in *Cikamunding*, *Cimangeunteung*, *Cimanyangray*, *Cikatapis*, *Cipalabuh*. Besides, there are 6 place names belong to the 3rd pattern: **ci + X + (a)**. Variable (a) can be a substitution of preposition as in *Ciladaeun*, *Cikumbueun*, *Cilangkahan*, *Citepuseun*, *Ciseureuheun*, *Cikaduen*.

From the analysis of lexical meaning and toponymic patterns above, it is clear that place names are important to society. One reason is that place-names have their meaning and power that indicates the cultural background of the name bearer. This research aims to investigate the lexical meaning of every place name begin with *ci*, and find the original toponymic pattern of Banten province. The lexical meaning of place names in Banten province can be seen below:

Table 2. Lexical Meaning Categories of Place Names Begin with Ci

Categories	%
plant-names or floronyms	20,1
animal names/faunonyms	6,25
Colors	6,25
Hydronyms	4

food-names	1
Adjectives	6,7
activities/verbs	0,4
sea transportation	0,4

Data shows a significant result that 45 place names or 20,1% relate to floronyms. There are three categories of floronyms in the Banten toponymic system; 12 names belong to Fruits/Vegetables, nine names belong to Trees/Herbs, and six names belong to Flowers. It shows us that the reference of names is very close to the life of Banten people.

This research proves that the study of names discusses scientific investigations about the origin, age, meaning, development, and geographical distribution. It relates to what Tichelaar (2002) says that each name contains very ancient language elements while the elements contain various information about the history of human settlements, activities of the population, and economic development. The language elements of Sundanese are involved in creating a name, also the use of prefix *ci* and preposition *ka* in a name. The element of language consists of semantics and morphology aspects. It relates to Tichelaar's theory stated that in general, names begin as a group of semantic units.

CONCLUSION

The significant result of lexical meaning shows that 20,1% of total data of place names begin with *ci* relate to the floronyms. Most plant names (fruits/vegetables, herbs/trees, and flowers) can be found easily in the Banten area. This finding shows that Banten people, from time to time, already see nature as the basis of their life. They eat food directly from the field and run their life from nature. In short, Banten people genuinely depend on natural resources. They also use plants or herbs as medicine. The reflection of natural resources can be seen in the place names.

In studying names, the pattern and process of creating names and even their connotations are also considered. When a name is added to an object, the language used in that name will greatly influence the form and its meaning. From 224 place names begin with *ci*, all names are originally from Sundanese. There are 3 patterns of Banten toponymic system: (1) *ci* + x, (2) *ci* + (a) + x, and (3) *ci* + x + (a). In conclusion, the name study cannot be separated from cultural research, which is certainly related to the culture of the people who live in the place. Toponymy is not only related to the semantics and morphology of words. It also relates to the culture and motivation behind the choice of a name. The meaning of a name is comprehensive, including the origin, geography, socio-cultural values, and religions. The values contained in a society will be seen in the form of naming and reflected in the people's behavior.

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