



## The Attributives Comparison between Chinese and Indonesian

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### Abstract

*The word order comparative analysis is important research in linguistics studies. It is assisting the second language learners or teachers in learning process. The research mainly shows the word order in noun phrase. Noun phrase consists of head and attributives, the head is noun and the attributives consist of any type of the word or group of words. The attributives order and the head as a core in noun phrase, it can show similarities and differences structures between Chinese Language and Indonesian Language. This article shows relation between head and attributives order in noun phrase. The order of Chinese Language attributives is placed before the head. The order of Indonesian language attributives (except: number-classifier, negation, restriction word) is placed after the head.*

**Keywords:** Noun Phrase, Word Order, Attributives, Comparative Analysis

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### 1. Introduction

Chinese language learners usually find some grammar or structure problems in their learning process. The common mistake is the word order. For Indonesian, Chinese has different word order. In study Chinese, Indonesians are usually influenced by Indonesian Language word order, they use Indonesian word order in Chinese Language. According to relationship development that increases between China and Indonesia, study second language becomes important thing. Nowadays there are so many Indonesians who study Chinese language and Chinese people also need to study Indonesian Language. So, it is important to do comparative research between Chinese and Indonesian Language.

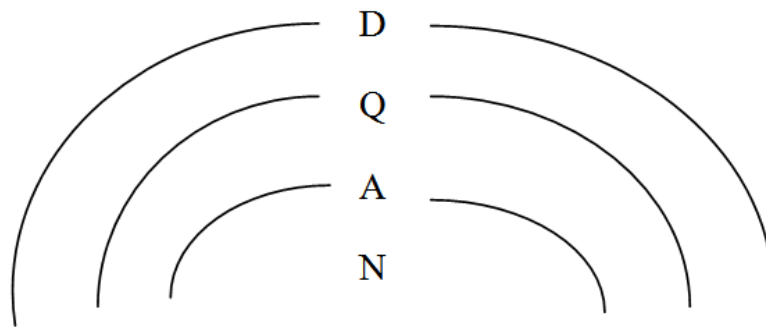
Chinese and Indonesian language have similarities and differences structures, this article shows relation between head and attributives order in noun phrase from both of language. The order of Chinese Language attributives is placed before the head. The order of Indonesian language attributives (except : number-classifier, negation, restriction word) is placed after the head.

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There are some previous articles those also analyzing Chinese and Indonesian attributives. Chen Tinghe (2002)'s research topic is "The word Order of Chinese and Indonesian Comparative Analysis and Indonesian Student's Common Errors of the Chinese Word Order". Xu Fuping and Huang Zhaolong (2004) the research topic is "Comparative Analysis of Chinese Indonesian Complex Attributives". This study is aimed at the errors of word order in Indonesian students in the process of learning Chinese complex attributives, from the perspective of phrase attributives and multinomial attributives. From the common errors that previous studies before, it prove that the word order is important thing to analyze. As to emphasize the word order result and show the structures in grammar conclusion, this comparative research aims to help second language learners to grasp the grammar, rules, and structures in learning process.

To strengthen the analysis especially in analyzing the complex attributives, the author use theories from linguists. Lu Bingfu in *The Head-oriented Grammar* (2003, p.99), According to Hawkins survey, there are four orders of words: Determiner (D), Quantity (Q), Adjective (A), and Noun as Head (N). Chinese belongs to DQNA (Lu Bingfu, 2003, p.99). The possibilities of the word order as the following:

1. Three of subordinate words exist before the head; DQAN
2. Two of subordinate words exist before the head; DQNA
3. One of subordinate words exist before the head; DNAQ, QNAD
4. Three of subordinates words exist after the head; NAQD, NDQA, NADQ, NDAQ



**Figure1.** The words order

Source : *The Head-oriented Grammar* (Lu Bingfu, 2003, p.100)

The complex attributives also exists in modified compound structure According to Zhu Dexi, if it analyze from "Polynomial modified compound structure" (*语法讲义* Grammatical Lecture, p.150) Chinese Language has several forms, as the following:

- a. (A1+A2+...+An)的N
- b. (A1的+A2的+...+An的) N
- c. (A1+A2+...+An)的(N1+N2+...+Nn)
- d. (A1的+A2的+...An的) (N1+N2+...Nn)

## 2. Method

The method of research is using qualitative analysis. The objects of research are noun phrases of contemporary Chinese language and contemporary Indonesian Language in books and literary works. In contrastive analysis, the author shows similarities and differences between both of languages. The author finds the head and the attributives in noun phrase and then compares its structures, function, and relation between head and attributives.

## 3. The Attributive Comparison between Chinese and Indonesian

Based on contrasting component in noun phrase, the attributives can be a noun, pronoun, adjective, verb, preposition, numeral, measure word. Besides that, this research also attempts to find comparative of the complex attributives in Chinese and Indonesian.

### 3.1. Analysis attributives and Head order in Noun phrase

#### 3.1.1. Noun and Pronoun as Attributives

- |    |                           |                         |                     |
|----|---------------------------|-------------------------|---------------------|
| a. | 木头 桌子 <u>mutou zhuozi</u> | <u>Meja kayu</u>        | (Wood Table)        |
|    | Atr + H                   | H + Atr                 |                     |
| b. | 人口问题 <u>renkou wenti</u>  | <u>Masalah penduduk</u> | (Citizen's Problem) |
|    | Atr + H                   | H + Atr                 |                     |
| c. | 道德教育 <u>daode jiaoyu</u>  | <u>Pendidikan moral</u> | (Moral Education)   |
|    | Atr + H                   | H + Atr                 |                     |
| d. | 我的书 <u>wo de shu</u>      | <u>Buku Saya</u>        | (My book)           |
|    | Atr + H                   | H + Atr                 |                     |

From the examples above, it shows that the word order between Chinese and Indonesian is opposite. The attributives in Chinese are placed before the head, and Indonesian attributives are placed after the head. As in (a), the word *mutou* is placed before *zhuozi*, the word *kayu* is placed after *meja*. This order also appear in the examples (b), (c), (d).

#### 3.1.3. Adjective and verb as attributives

- |    |                                      |                          |                   |
|----|--------------------------------------|--------------------------|-------------------|
| a. | 脏衣服 <u>zang yifu</u>                 | <u>Baju Kotor</u>        | (dirty clothes)   |
|    | Atr + H                              | H + Atr                  |                   |
| b. | 平凡的农名 <u>pingfan de nongmin</u>      | <u>petani biasa</u>      | (Ordinary Farmer) |
|    | Atr + H                              | H + Atr                  |                   |
| c. | 学习热潮 <u>xuexi rechao</u><br>passion) | <u>Kegemaran belajar</u> | (Learning)        |
|    | Atr + H                              | H + Atr                  |                   |



## 3.2. The complex attributives comparison between Chinese and Indonesian

### 3.2.1. Phrase as Attributives

A group of words can be an attributive in noun phrase. This group of words also can be called as phrase. Phrases can be divided into several structures, such as: SP (subject-predicate), VO (verb-object), VC (verb-complement), Compounding, and modifier-modified form.

- a. 他喜欢吃的鱼 *ta xihuan chi de yu* ikan yang dia suka makan  
Atr (SP) + H                      H + Atr (SP)  
(The fish that she likes to eat)
- b. 用普通话的人 *yong putonghua de ren*  
Atr (VO) + H  
Orang yang menggunakan bahasa mandarin  
H + Atr (VO)  
(People who use Mandarin)
- c. 穿得破破烂烂的女孩 *chuande popo lanlan de nuhai*  
Atr (VC) + H  
Anak perempuan yang berpakaian compang-camping  
H + Atr (VC)  
(the girl that dressed in rags)
- d. 从薄荷和高粱的味道 *cong bohe he gaoliang de weidao*  
Atr (Compounding) + H  
dari aroma mint dan sorgum  
H + Atr (compounding)  
(The aroma from mint and shorgum)
- e. 汽车引擎的声音 *qiche yinqing de shenying*                      suara mesin mobil  
Atr (modifier-modified) + H                      H + Atr (modified-  
modifier)    modifier)  
(car engine's sounds)

The examples show that phrase as attributives mostly use attributive sign in both of language: Chinese *的de* and Indonesian *yang*. As the examples shows, the phrase structures between Chinese and Indonesian are similar, it is subject-predicate, Verb-Object, Verb- compliment, and compounding. However, the phrase a, b, c, d shows a different order when the phrase as attributives in noun phrase. In Chinese phrase as attributive is placed before the head, while in Indonesian order, Phrase as attributives are placed after the head. This is why it's called as complex attributives, because the attributives come from the group of words that has own structures in it.

In example e, either phrase structures or phrase as attributives order are different. Compound words in modifier-modified mode shows Chinese is contrary to Indonesian word order, it does not like SP, VO, VC, and Compounding that mostly have same structure. *汽车引擎qiche yinqing* is modifier-modified, and Indonesian *mesin mobil* is modified-modifier. As attributives, modifier-modified phrase between Chinese and Indonesian have opposite order. In Chinese modifier-modified as attributive is placed before the head and In Indonesian is placed after the head.

### 3.2.2. The order of Polynomial Attributives

According to internal order of phrase, Lu Bingfu stated that the preposition attributive is more fixed than the postposition attributive; there are four orders of words: Determiner (D), Quantity (Q), Adjective (A), and Noun as Head (N).

- a. *这一本有趣的书 zhe yiben youqu de shu*      sebuah buku menarik ini.

This interesting book

Sebuah	buku	Menarik	Ini
Q	N	A	D

The word order of noun phrase of Chinese belongs to DQAN, the three subordinates are placed before the core N, while the order of words in Indonesian is the quantifier (Q) + core name (N) + adjective (A) + finger (D), according to Figure 1. The word orders, the order of Indonesian belongs to type 3.2, QNAD.

According to Zhu Dexi, if it analyze from “Polynomial modified compound structure” (*语法讲义Grammatical Lecture, p.150*) Chinese Language has several forms. These form also can be used to compare attributives order between Chinese and Indonesian, as the following:

- a. (A1+A2+...+An)的N

- *优秀、聪明、伟大的人 youxiu, congming, weida de ren*

*Orang yang agung, pintar, dan cemerlang*

N yang + A1 + A2 + A3

(The great, smart, excellent person)

- *极真诚、极平常、极正当的话 ji zhencheng, ji pingchang, ji zhengdang de hua*

*Perkataan yang sangat benar, sangat biasa, dan sangat tulus*

N yang + A1 + A2 + A3

(true, common, and sincere words)

Indonesian structure is: **N yang (A1+A2+...An).**

b. (A1的+A2的+...+An的) N

- 真的、美的、善的东西 *zhende, meide, shande dongxi*

*Barang yang bagus, yang indah, dan yang asli*

N + yang A1 + yang A2 + dan yang A3

(The good, beautiful, and original thing)

- 新的贵的好的抗生素 *xinde guide haode kangshengsu*

*Antibiotik yang bagus, yang mahal, dan yang baru.*

N + yang A1 + yang A2 + dan yang A3

(The good, expensive, and new antibiotic)

Indonesian structure is: **N ( yang A1 + yang A2 + ...+ dan yang An)**

c. (A1+A2+...+An)的(N1+N2+...+Nn)

勤劳、朴素的工人和农民 *qinlao, pusu de gongren he nongmin*

*Buruh dan petani yang pekerja keras dan sederhana*

N1 +N2+ yang A1 +A2

(Hard worker and simple workers and farmers)

Indonesian structure is: **(N1+N2+...+Nn) yang (A1+A2+...+An)**

d. (A1的+A2的+...+An的) (N1+N2+...+Nn)

勤劳的、朴素的工人和农民 *qinlaode, pusu de gongren he nongmin*

*Buruh dan petani yang pekerja keras dan yang sederhana*

N1 + N2 + yang A1 + yang A2

(Hard worker and simple workers and farmers)

Indonesian structure is: **(N1+N2+...+Nn) (yang A1+yang A2+...+yang An)**

#### 4. Conclusion

According to comparative analysis above, it shows the word order of Chinese and Indonesian attributives have similarities and differences. The differences mostly shows in the opposite order of attributive and head. As the result, the author gives structure of Chinese and Indonesian, as the following:



Atributives	Chinese	Indonesian
Noun as Attributive	NP = Atr + (的)+ H	NP = H + Atr
Pronoun as atributive	NP = Atr + H	NP = H + Atr
Adjective as atributive	NP = Atr + H	NP = H + Atr
Verb as atributive	NP = Atr + H	NP = H + Atr
Preposition atributive	as NP = Atr + 的+H	NP = H + Atr
Numeral, Measure word as atributive	NP = Num + m + H	NP = Num + m + H
SV as atributive	NP = SV (Atr) +的+ H	NP = H + yang + Atr (SV)
VO as atributive	NP = VO (Atr) +的+ H	NP = H + yang + Atr (VO)
VC as atributive	NP = VC (Atr) +的+ H	NP = H + yang + Atr (VC)
Compounding as atributive	NP = Atr(compounding)+的+ H	NP = H + Atr(compounding)
modifier-modified as atributive	NP =Atr(modifier-modified) + H	NP = H + Atr (modified- modifier)

For the complex attributives comparison this research shows some structure, as the following:

Chinese	Indonesian
DQAN	QNAD
(A1+A2+...+An)的N	N yang (A1+A2+...An)
(A1的+A2的+...+An的) N	N ( yang A1 + yang A2 + ...+ dan yang An)
(A1+A2+...+An)的(N1+N2+...+Nn)	(N1+N2+...+Nn) yang (A1+A2+...+An)
(A1的+A2的+...An的) (N1+N2+...Nn)	(N1+N2+...+Nn) (yang A1+yang A2+...+yang An)

The phrase as an attributive, in addition to the partial phrase as an attributive, the structure of Chinese and Indonesian is the same. In the analysis of the components of the polynomial attributive, it seems that the order of the attributive components of the Indonesian language is more flexible.

The position of the attributive language of Chinese and Indonesian is generally opposite. The position of Chinese attributive is in front of the central language, and the position of the Indonesian attributive (except for quantifiers, negative words, and table restrictive words) is behind the central language.

When the quantifier is used as an attributive, the position of the attributive of Chinese and Indonesian is the same, that is, the position of the number and quantifier is in front of the central language, that is, NP = Num + Cl + H.

The position of demonstrative pronouns and quantifiers in Chinese is more flexible. In Indonesian, the positions of demonstrative pronouns and quantifiers are fixed. The demonstrative pronouns appear at the end of the attributive components, for example word *ini* and *itu*, and the quantifiers appear before the head.

According to Lu Bingfu "Order Structure and Semantic Proximity Principle", the word order of the internal nouns of Chinese noun phrases belongs to DQAN. Three subordinates and all are in front of the core N. The order of the internal attributive of the Indonesian word phrase belongs to QNAD, which is a subordinate language in front of the core.



To the second language learners, this research shows some important structures those have to be grasped. Because of mostly Chinese and Indonesian structures are opposite, second language learners usually do mistake in making phrases or sentences. From this case, the teachers should be concern in their teaching strategies. Study grammar is important thing to bring good speakers of second language, especially in Chinese and Indonesian languages. The author suggestion for next research is about teaching and learning strategy in study Chinese grammar and word order. The more detail of grammar studies can help teacher and student to find best way in learning grammar.

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