

Dutch Authority In “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”

Ratrie Ayuning Wulandari

Indonesian Studies Program

Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Indonesia

ratrie.ayuning@ui.ac.id

Dewaki Kramadibrata

Literature Department

Faculty of Humanities, Universitas Indonesia

dewaki.kramadibrata@ui.ac.id; dewaki56@gmail.com

Abstract - This paper discusses about “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” (SKKB528), a colonial archive manuscript collection that is stored in the National Archive of the Republic of Indonesia. The manuscript contains rules that dominated the Dutch government’s political authority in the Buol kingdom. The texts are written in Malay, using Jawi script. Therefore, the texts are transliterated with philological works in order to understand the content. Then, the results of the transliteration is made as a data source to analyze the content of the text. The transliteration results display unique characteristics in the use of Malay language in texts, specifically regarding the use of vocabulary with affixes. This study aims to explain the use of such vocabulary in the text in relation to the Dutch government’s power domination towards the Buol kingdom. The research uses qualitative and descriptive approach as well as literature review. Based on the analysis of the linguistic elements, 15 words with affixes that denote Dutch power discourse towards Buol are found. It can be seen that the Dutch government intended to reap as many profit as possible from Buol’s economy.

Keywords: contract letter, affix vocabulary, discourse of power

I. INTRODUCTION

In present time, Buol is known as Buol/Toli-toli district located in Central Sulawesi. Its geographical position is 0,35°–1,20° North Latitude and 120,12°–122,09° East Longitude (Buol Topographic Map PDF, www.geospasial.bnpb.go.id). In the past, however, Buol is a small kingdom that was liberated from the colonialism of the Ternate kingdom. The first king that ruled the Buol Kingdom is King Ndain (1795—1802) (Proyek Penelitian dan Pencatatan Kebudayaan Daerah, 1979:99).

There have been very little information regarding the kingdom of Buol, even though in the past Buol was a very strategic location. The trade and mining from that place has generated large revenues. That is what makes the Dutch government determined to occupy Buol in order for the place to be designated as a gold mining center.

In the middle of the 19th century, the Dutch government establish a political cooperation with Buol kingdom by formulating a contract (agreement) that is hand-written in the form of manuscripts. One of those manuscripts is “*Contract Gesloten tusschen Resident van Manado, Albert Jacques Frederik Jansen en Radja van Bwool, Paduka Muhammad Noer Aladin betreffende Politiek, 15 August 1858 (8 January 1859)*” (“Closed Contract between Manado Residents, Albert Jacques Frederik Jansen, and the king of Buol, Your Majesty Muhammad Noer Aladin regarding Politics, 15 August 1858 [8 January 1859]”). Hereinafter referred to as “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”.

“528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” was made on August 15 1858 in Buol. However, the contract was established on January 8 1959 by the Dutch. Currently the manuscript is stored in the Conventional Archive Collection of the Colonial Period in the National Archive of the Republic of Indonesia (ANRI).

“528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” is written in Malay using Jawi script, and in Dutch language using Latin script. “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” consists of 21 articles with a total of 12 pages. The letter is signed by a Residen Manado named Jacques Frederik Jansen from the Dutch side and Your Majesty Mohammad Noer Aladdin Basri along with the *jogugu, kapiten laut, kaicili, walapulu, and ukum (ilhukum)* from the Buol side.

In order for the letter to be used as data, the manuscript text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” that is written using Jawi script is transliterated into the Latin alphabet with philological works. Based on the transliterated text, some unique characteristics in Malay language can be seen in the contract, namely in the writing of numbers and the use of some affixes that denote the Dutch’s form of authority towards Buol kingdom. This paper discusses about the unique characteristics in Malay language that are found in the “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”. The study is done using both text and literature analysis method.

II. DISCUSSION

2.1 A Brief History of Buol Kingdom

Buol or *Bwool* originated from the word “*Bwuolyo*” which means ‘froth’. The name is derived from an oral tradition about a big wave and sea froth during a sea voyage at the time of Noah the Prophet. The place name “*Bwuolyo*” was called “Bwool” later by the Dutch. Furthermore, the name “Bwool” was changed into “Boel”. After the use of Enhanced Indonesian Spelling System (*Ejaan yang Disempurnakan*, abbreviated as EYD), the name “Boel” is changed into “Buol” up until now (Samad as cited in Idris, 2013:10).

The first king to rule Buol Kingdom is King Ndain (1795—1802). Buol often undergone a change of king, and between the year 1595 to 1802, there are already 19 turnovers of the Buol king. Below is the list of Kings who have ruled the Buol Kingdom in sequence (Proyek Penelitian dan Pencatatan Kebudayaan Daerah, 1979:72—73)

1. Pombang Lipu (1595—1633).
2. Ndubu II (1633—1650) centered in Mulat.
3. Donolangit (1650—1662) centered in Lantikadigo.
4. Todaël (1662—1690) centered in Kadilagon.
5. Dokliwan (1690—1712) centered in Biau (Attinggolu).
6. Makalalah (1712—1720) centered in Moyaki (Onene).
7. Daimakio (1720—1745) centered in Kantanon.
8. Pongdu (1745—1770) centered in Lono.
9. Punu Bwulaan II (1770—1778) centered in Lamolang.
10. Boia Mangilalo (1778—1786) centered in Potongan.
11. Raja Kanui (1786—1795).
12. Raja Ndain (Undaing) (1795—1802).
13. Raja Datu Mimo (1804—1810) centered in di Lamolan.
14. Mokoapat (1813—1818).
15. Ndubu
16. Taku Loe who was then replaced by Datu Tinggi (deceased).
17. Datu Mula: The son of King Ndubu (1830—1840) centered in Biabat.
18. Elamo (1843—1857).
19. Madeio (1857).

The original name of King Mohammad Noer Aladdin Basri, who signed the “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, is Lahadun. He is the son of the 17th King of Buol, Datu Mula (1830—1834).

“528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” consists of 21 articles denoting rules in the field of politics, law, and economic that are applied in the Kingdom of Buol. The contents of the contract are as follow:

Aspect	Section	Article	Content
Politics	Authority	1	The recognition from Kingdom Buol of the Dutch authority.
		2	The prohibition to establish cooperation with other parties beside the Dutch.
		3	Native people as well as people of Chinese descent should ask for permissions to enter the Kingdom of Buol.
		6	Dutch authority over trader and foreigners (people of Chinese descent and natives).
		16	The order from Residen Manado for King Buol to go to Manado.
		18	Road repair under the orders of Residen Manado.
		20	Plantation yields of the Buol kingdom must be handed over to the Dutch.
	Succession	5	A change in Your Majesty King Buol’s rank and the promotion of <i>jogugu</i> as well as <i>kapiten laut</i> .
Law	Justice	4	Land justice issues in Buol

	Criminal	7	Penalty rule regarding “Robbery” in Buol.
		9	Criminal act of capturing robbers in Buol.
		8	Sanctions for the absence of respect towards the Dutch
	Civil	17	Debts between the King of Buol and the Dutch side.
		14	Terms and conditions in the liberation of the King of Buol and minister using the existing agreement patterns in Buol.
Economy	Plantation	11	Improvement of Buol plantation.
		19	Improvement of plantation yields in Buol.
	Rent	21	The Dutch’s approval of the land rent in Buol.
	Payment system	15	The payment for economic needs using Rupiah currency or equivalent with gold chip is applicable in the Buol kingdom.

Table Content of “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”

In principle, the contrat letter eliminate the sovereignty of the Buol kingdom. There is an existing rule from the Dutch side that the appointment of a new king must be approved by Residen Manado.

In “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, there are several important positions that participated in the signing of the contract, namely *kaicili* (prince), *jogugu* (minister), *kapiten laut* (security officials at sea), *walapulu* (treasurer), and *ukum* or *ilhukum* (officials possessing the knowledge of the kingdom’s relation with other parties). Based on their position and duty, a structure diagram of officials in the Buol kingdom can be seen below.

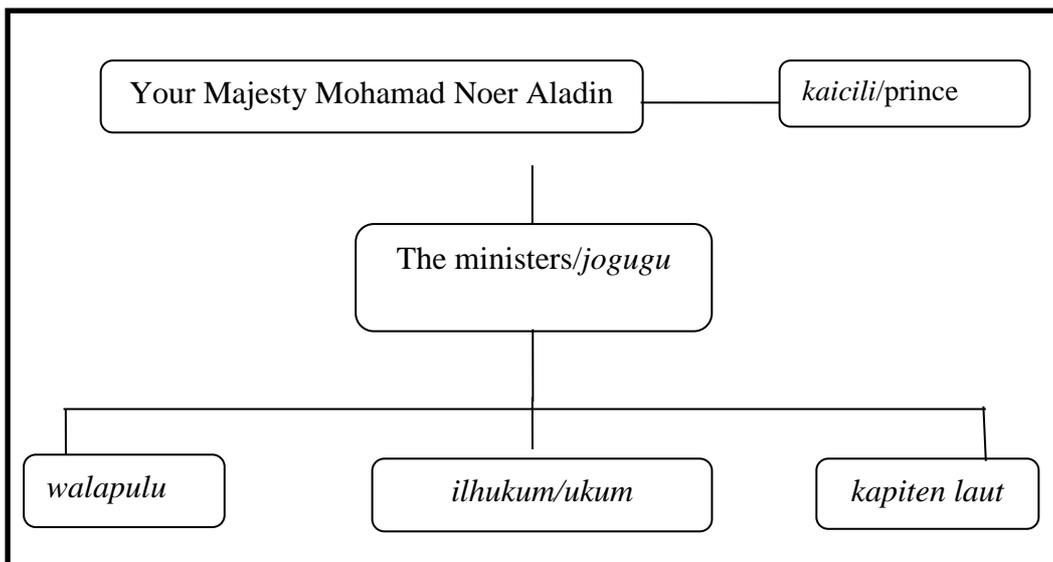


Diagram Figures and Position in the Kingdom of Buol

2.2 Malay Language in “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”

The Malay manuscript written in regions throughout the archipelago received the influence of local languages. Specifically, the influences of such language can be seen in the phonology, word formation, and sentences. The Malay language in *Istiadat Tanah Negeri Butun* manuscript, for example, received the influence of the Wolio language, a local language that is used in the town of Bau-Bau, Buton, and the surrounding areas. (see Ikram, 2005:18).

In the text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, general characteristics in Malay language usage can be seen, namely the addition of the letter /h/ in several words such as *baharu*, *dihantarkan*, *berhutang*, *sisah*, *sebahgian*, and *segerah*. In addition, there is an omission of the letter /h/ in some words as well, such as *ole*, *jumlanya*, and *memili*. The addition or omission of the letter /h/ is commonly found in Malay texts because the writing is based on oral utterances.

Furthermore, a unique pattern in the use of number vocabulary is also found in the “258 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”. The usage of the number vocabulary is written with a combination of letter and number. Also, the number vocabulary in the text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” is sorted ascending from small to large.

The aforementioned matter can be seen specifically in the order of articles as follows. *Kesepuluh satu* means ‘eleven’, *kesepuluh dua* means ‘twelfth’, *kesepuluh tiga* means ‘thirteenth’, *kesepuluh empat* means ‘fourteenth’, *kesepuluh lima* means ‘fifteenth’, *kesepuluh enam* means ‘sixteenth’, *kesepuluh tujuh* means ‘seventeenth’, *kesepuluh delapan* means ‘eighteenth’, and *kesepuluh sembilan* means ‘nineteenth’. There is a possibility that the pronunciation of such numbers is influenced by local language. In addition, there is also a uniqueness in the writings of date and year written in the text. For instance, the number ‘fifteen’ is written as *sepuluh lima hari* instead of *lima belas*, and the year 1858 is written as *seribu delapan ratus lima puluh delapan*.

2.3 The Dutch Government Power Domination in “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” Based on the Use of Affixed Words

In “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, vocabulary with affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan* are found. The vocabularies that uses both affixes in the text are (1) *dipegangkan*, (2) *diperiksakan*, (3) *dihukumkan*, (4) *diwartakan*, (5) *dihantarkan*, (6) *dihukumkan*, (7) *diperbetulkan*, (8) *dipersawatukan*, (9) *dibetulkan*, (10) *dipupuhkan*, (11) *dititahkan*, (12) *disamakan*, (13) *dipeliharakan*, (14) *dipetakan*, and (15) *dipersumpahkan*.

The affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan* are passive verbs that refer to work activities. The vocabularies will be discussed in relation to power discourse. Discourse is a human image communicated through language (both oral and written) that is built or based on their experiences of the world (Renkema, 2004:48). According to Kramsch (1998:61) discourse is a socially accepted relationship between the use of language regarding reasoning that can be used to identify individual as a member of a group.

The above definitions of discourse become increasingly clear with the boundaries given by Schiffrin (1994). Schiffrin discusses discourse in communication function. He stated that discourse is a piece of language that is performing its function. Schiffrin believes that in an act of communication, the utterance that is being used contains meanings that will form a text. These texts are then used to express oneself, such as to beat around the bush.

Boundaries regarding discourse that are formulated by the experts as mentioned above are expanded by Foucault who associates discourse with power. According to Foucault (2000:152) discourse speaks about rules that applies in a specific historical period. When associated with power, Foucault (2000:144) believes that discourse is never detached from power.

The following section elaborates the unique usage of Malay words from the text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”. The analysis will be discussed in relation to the Dutch’s power discourse towards Buol.

(1) The use of the word *dipegangkan* in article 5 which reads,

“Adapun maka kalau-kalau Paduka Raja itu mana, maka haruslah *jogugu* dan menteri-menteri yang lain mewartakan perkara ini dengan lekas-lekas kepada Residennya Manado. Lagi pun haruslah pemerintahan kerajaan itu *dipegangkan* oleh *jogugu* tersebut sehingga raja yang baharu itu mendapat pangkat daripada pihak gubernemennya itu”.

The above excerpt shows that the word *dipegangkan* means ‘have been given’. It signifies that the kingdom governance should be given to the *jogugu*. Atjo (2009) stated that *jogugu* means ‘representative holder, prime minister, vizier, high administrators’ in the Buol region. Therefore, the position of King of Buol can be maintained. In this case it can be seen that the Dutch government was determined to take over the Buol kingdom by giving the position or rank to the *jogugu* and ministers. It shows that the Dutch government possessed full authority over the position of power.

(2) The use of the word *diperiksakan* in article 6 which reads,

“Adapun maka atas hal perbantahan antara bala-bala perkara itu akan *diperiksakan* dan dihukumkan oleh Sri Paduka Raja dalam perkumpulan bicaranya menurut kebiasaan tanah”.

The word *diperiksakan* in the above text means ‘examined by’. It denotes how the Dutch government intended to rule Buol kingdom by inspecting the problems that were dealt by the King of Buol. Thus, it is clear that there exists authority over power that was completely owned by the Dutch government.

(3) The use of the word *dihukumkan* in article 6 that reads,

“Adapun maka atas hal perbantahan antara bala-bala perkara itu akan diperiksakan dan *dihukumkan* oleh Sri Paduka Raja dalam perkumpulan bicaranya menurut kebiasaan tanah”.

The word *dihukumkan* in the above text means ‘has been punished by’. It shows how the Dutch government aims to rule Buol kingdom by punishing the King of Buol for his mistakes towards Residen Manado. It is palpable that there exist authority over civil and criminal law that must be fully obeyed by the Buol kingdom.

(4) The use of the word *diwartakan* in article 7 which reads,

“Lagi pun penemu itu belanjakan kupang berlancung atau kupang kertas itu, maka perkara haruslah perkara ini *diwartakan* dengan surat kepada pihak Residennya Manado ia itu”.

The word *diwartakan* in the above text means ‘reported by’. It indicates that the Dutch government demanded that every alteration related to their territory should be reported through letter to the Dutch government representative, in this case the Residen Manado. Based on the above excerpt, the reported letter contains payment issues that were done using the currency of Buol kingdom. The Dutch government needed to make sure that such changes were conducted in a written form in order for it to be used as a warranty in conducting transaction.

(5) The use of the word *dihantarkan* in article 7 which reads,

“Apalah hendak dititahkan menurut keberatan hal persalahan itu bahwa dia telah diperbetulkan selaku perinya tersebut di atas atau juga akan dititahkan bahwa orang-orang yang berbuat demikian harus *dihantarkan* ke Manado serta dengan/saksi-saksi.”

The use of the word *dihantarkan* in the above text means ‘surrendered by’. Such usage shows that if any objection to the court decision shall arise, the perpetrator as well as the witnesses who were involved must be surrendered by the officials of Buol kingdom to Manado. This rule was made by the Dutch so that every finalized decision was to be brought to Manado (the region that became the representative of the Dutch government in Sulawesi). As a result, it was easier for the Dutch to control all things related to legal issues.

The following excerpt illustrates the use of the word *diantarkan* in article 7 which reads,

“Maka mereka itu yang bersalah demikian pada rampas laut di dalam Kerajaan Buol haruslah *diantarkan*, kalau-kalau sudah ditangkap mereka itu bersama dengan saksi-saksi dan tanda-tanda peneguhan kehadiran pihak Residen/ Manado”.

The above text shows that the word *diantarkan* means ‘escorted by’. It means that for every time a seizure happens in the sea, the perpetrators must be escorted by the Buol kingdom side to the resident of Manado to be punished. The statement implies that the Dutch government intended to take over the law that controls the Buol territory. The purpose of such a measure is to weaken the law in the Buol kingdom

(6) The use of the word *dihukumkan* in article 8 which reads,

“Maka mereka itu yang bersalah demikian pada rampas laut di dalam Kerajaan Buol haruslah *diantarkan*, kalau-kalau sudah ditangkap mereka itu bersama saksi-saksi dan tanda-tanda peneguhan kehadiran pihak Residen Manado supaya mereka *dihukumkan* daripada pihak pada pihak Raad van Iustisi yang/berkuasa menghukumkan mereka itu demikian.”

The above text shows that the word *dihukumkan* means ‘shall be punished by’. Hence, the Dutch government, namely Raad van Iustisi, will act firmly and sternly punish whoever was guilty for the seizure at the sea inside Buol territory. The statement demonstrates the Dutch’s power within the legal aspects of the Buol territory.

(7) The use of the word *diperbetulkan* in article 7 which reads,

“Apalah hendak titahkan menurut keberatan hal persalahan itu bahwa dia telah *diperbetulkan* selaku perinya tersebut di atas, atau juga akan titahkan bahwa orang-orang yang berbuat demikian harus dihantarkan ke Manado, serta dengan/ saksi-saksi, dan segala perkara dipersawatukan dengan hal tersebut itu.”

The above text shows that the word *diperbetulkan* means ‘repaired by’. It shows that the Dutch government possess authority to repair the damage that occurred in Buol. The rights to correct and repair lies in the hand of the Dutch government. Hence, it proves that the control over legal matters rests on the Dutch side.

(8) The use of the word *dipersawatukan* in article 7 which reads,

“... atau juga akan titahkan bahwa orang-orang yang berbuat demikian harus di[h]antarkan ke Manado, [be]serta dengan saksi-saksi, dan segala perkara *dipersafwa]tukan* dengan hal tersebut itu.”

The above text shows that the word *dipersawatukan* means ‘has been merged’. The statement illustrates the Dutch government’s act of regulating the the legal process in Buol by including the perpetrators, the proof of case, as well as the witnessess related to the violation of law. The Dutch regulated such matter in order for the perpetrator to be brought to trial by the Dutch government. This clearly conveys that legal control is completely owned by the Dutch government.

(9) The use of the word *dibetulkan* in article 4 which reads,

“dan jikalau kedapatan jadi barang perbantahan antara Kerajaan Buol dan tanah lain-lain akan murahakan dengan sesegaranya beserta sebab perbantahan, yaitu kepada Residen Manado supaya perkara itu boleh *dibetulkan* dengan kebenaran atas mana mereka itu akan/menaklukan dirinya.

The above text shows that the word *dibetulkan* means ‘will be repaired by’. The statement illustrates how the Dutch government possessed the authority to correct all sorts of mistakes that occurred in the Buol region. The authority to correct any mistake that occurred in a region should be owned by the government of the region. However, it can be seen in the manuscript how such authority was taken instead by the Dutch government in order to limit the Buol’s government jurisdiction.

(10) The use of the word *dipupuhkan* in article 15 which reads,

“Maka sungguhpun nanti *dipupuhkan* setahun suatu memili lima rupiah jumlahnya itu atas suatu dapur memilih yang mana nanti dibayar dengan keping emas atau lain buah-buah tanah terhitung atas harga mana pasar itu.

The above text shows that the word *dipupuhkan* means ‘will be set by’ (KBMN, 2003:2168). Hence, it can be seen how the Dutch government aimed to rule over the Buol kingdom by setting a Rp. 5,- payment in a year or gold chip that were applicable in Buol. Such act proves that the economic power in terms of the payment system was owned by the Dutch government.

(11) The use of the word *dititahkan* in article 18 which reads,

“Maka Paduka Raja dan menteri-menteri mengaku akan membuka dan membetulkan jalan-jalan di dalam kerajaannya. Bilamana hal itu *dititahkan* daripada pihak Gubernur Jenderal daripada Hindia Nederland atau penjawat yang memegang perintah atas namanya.

The above text shows that the word *dititahkan* means ‘commanded by’. It demonstrates how the Dutch government was determind to rule Buol kingdom by giving command or emissary to the King of Buol as well as the ministers to improve the infrastructure, such as the roads that exist in the Buol kingdom. Therefore, it is obvious that the authority in the field of facilities and infrastructure was owned by the Dutch government.

(12) The use of the word *disamakan* in article 21 which reads,

“Maka berjanjilah Paduka Raja dan menteri-menteri Kerajaan Buol, tiada hendak ia mempersewakan tanah pada orang bangsa Eropa, dan yang *disamakan* dengan dia, atau pada orang di bawah tangan yang asing. Jika tiada dengan muwafakat..”

The above text shows that the word *disamakan* means ‘likened by’. It shows that the Dutch government intended to take over the Buil kingdom by prohibiting the King of Buol as well as the ministers to rent the land in Buol to Europeans and people who are deemed as equal with the Dutch. The statement means that the Dutch government did not want to be likened by other strangers in terms of land rent. Thus, the authority over land rent in Buil rested in the hand of the Dutch government.

(13) The use of the word *dipeliharakan* article 4 which reads,

“.....wakil Paduka Sri yang dipertuan besar Gubernur Jenderal di Manado, supaya persewaan itu datar bermuwafakat dengan gubernemennya Hindia Nederland. Itupun dengan tiada *dipeliharakan* barang laba pada gubernemennya sendiri, dan akan jadi penggunaan sedapat-dapatnya bagi Paduka Raja dan menteri-menteri Kerajaan/ Buol, tetapi dengan diturut sehingga dapat diturutinya bait titah Baginda Maharaja yang sejati.”

The above text shows that the word *dipeliharakan* means ‘guarded by’. This statement illustrates that the Dutch government paid attention the the profit sharing that was generated in the Buol region. The Dutch government wanted to divide the profit as a mean to ingratiate the Buol side. This strategy was done by the Dutch government to make the occupation of Buol easier.

(14) The use of the word *dipetakan* in article 4 which reads,

“Sebegitu *dipetakan*, diperbagus tangan, dan dipersumpahkan di negeri Buol pada sepuluh lima hari, bulan Agustus, tahun seribu dulapan ratus lima puluh delapan.

The above text shows that the word *dipetakan* means ‘portrayed by’. The statement shows that the contract letter is documented and established by the Dutch on 15 of August 1585 in Buol. It clearly indicates that there was a full control towards the contract with Buol kingdom that was completely owned by the Dutch government

(15) The use of the word *dipersumpahkan* in article 4 which reads,

“Sebegitu dipetakan, diperbagus tangan, dan *dipersumpahkan* di negeri Buol pada sepuluh lima hari, bulan Agustus, tahun/seribu dulapan ratus lima puluh delapan./” (SKKB528: 11).

The above text shows that the word *dipersumpahkan* means ‘sworn by’. This shows as if the Dutch government wanted to rule Buol kingdom by making the King of Buol obey all contracts and vows that were made between the Buol kingdom and the Dutch government.

Based on the above explanation, it can be seen that the use of passive vocabularies with both affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan* exhibits a discourse that was intentionally made by the Dutch to and control Buol. The use of vocabulary with affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan* that are found in this text also places Buol as rather passive, making it easier to be occupied by the Dutch. In addition, situating Buol in a passive manner in “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” was the Dutch’s way to weaken the government of Buol.

III. CONCLUSION

Based on the discussion and elaboration, the characteristics of Malay language that are different from the present Indonesian language can be seen. In “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, exists a variation of writing in some words because the Jawi script does not have punctuation (full stop, semi colon, exclamation mark, and etc) and does not yet have a standardization of word writing. The origin place of the manuscript also influences the writing of some vocabularies that is found in the text.

The characteristics of the Malay language in text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter” is also seen in the inconsistency of the use of /h/ in some words contained within the text. Moreover, the writing of numbers also has different pattern from how numbers are written in the present, namely the writing of tenth one which means ‘eleventh’.

The next characteristic lies in the passive verbs with affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan*. In the text “528 Buol Kingdom Contract Letter”, 15 forms of vocabulary that use the affix *di-kan* and *diper-kan* are found, which are *dipegangkan*, *diperiksakan*, *dihukumkan*, *diwartakan*, *dihantarkan*, *dihukumkan*, *diperbetulkan*, *dipersawatukan*, *dibetulkan*, *dipupuhkan*, *dititahkan*, *disamakan*, *dipeliharakan*, *dipetakan*, and *dipersumpahkan*. In the text, it is apparent that the 15 passive vocabularies are verbs that are pacified. In the present, the use of the affix *di-kan* such as in *dipegangkan* and *dihukumkan* as well as the affix *diper-kan* such as in *diperbetulkan* and *dipersumpahkan* is extremely rare.

Based on the analysis of the use of passive form in the text, a power domination from the Dutch government towards the Buol kingdom can be observed. The choice of words using affixes is done as a way to position the Buol kingdom in a passive and helpless manner. The use of the 15 vocabularies with the affixes *di-kan* and *diper-kan* indicates that there was a rule that binded the Buol kingdom.

The rules that were made by the Dutch government reflects the Dutch’s power domination. Rules that are written in the text shows that Buol was completely owned by the Dutch government, and in this case represented by Residen Manado. The Dutch dominated the power in Buol kingdom in order to reap as many profit as possible from the trade as well as the plantation yield in Buol.

Historical studies regarding Buol and other parts of Eastern Indonesia have not been done much due to the script constraint that are used in the manuscript. Meanwhile, manuscript contents, especially those of contract letters, can be a valuable source of information. This research hopes to be able to provide insights into Indonesia’s national history in the past, as well as a reference for moving forward into the future.

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