Malay-Indonesian Problem Solution

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Outline

1. Introduction
2. Morphemes
3. Translation
4. Claims
5. Making words
Morpheme List

ini ’this’
itu ’that’
kuda ’horse’
Ali ’Ali’
bagus ’good’
men- verb affix, present?, 3rd pers subj?
jual- sell (root)
-an Nominalizer (’something that is V’ed)
di- passive marker
oleh ’by’
pen- agentive affix (’one who V’s’, like English ’-er’)
kain cloth
Translation to English

kuda bagus ini ∅ kuda ∅ ali
horse good this (is) horse (of) Ali
‘This good horse is Ali’s horse.’
Translation to Malay/Indonesian

Ali’s merchandise is cloth.Jualan Ali kain
This is a good horse. Ini kuda bagus
This horse is good. Kuda ini bagus.

Why not this?

This is a good horse = Ini [NP bagus kuda]

Because in other cases what modifies a Noun comes after it (kuda ini = this horse, penjual kain = cloth seller)
Three claims about Malay/Indonesian

- Must have verb
  - No. *Ini kuda*.

- No Possessive Morpheme
  - No equivalent to ’s, of

- No definite article
  - Looks like no translation of the
New words

Key examples:

\[ \text{jual-an} \quad 'merchandise' \quad = \quad 'sell' + \text{-an} \]

\[ \text{pen-jual} \quad 'seller' \quad = \quad \text{pen-} + \quad 'sell' \]

\[ \text{pendidik} \quad 'teacher', 'educator' \quad ('one who teaches') \]

\[ \text{didikan} \quad 'subject', 'discipline' \quad ('something that is taught') \]

\[ \text{student} \quad ('someone who is taught') \]

The data suggests one of these!

education: actual meaning
Malay/Indonesion 70/280 M. speakers (70 M. native)

Malay is frequently ignored in language surveys! [wikipedia!]