TARGET DOMAINS OF AYAM 'CHIKEN' IN INDONESIAN PROVERBS

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Abstract: This paper aims at describing the various target domains possibly referred by the source domain ayam 'chiken' found in Indonesian proverbs. By observing data mainly collected from Indonesian proverb book, it is found that ayam 'chiken' as one of the most popular animals raised by Indonesian people can be exploited to metaphorically resemble various source domains. Those are from the most common to the least, are i.e human state, human character, problem, luck, and truth and falsity.

Keywords: proverb, metaphor, source domain, target domain

A. INTRODUCTION

Human beings, as language speakers, always try in such ways to make all experiences they come across during their life time as concrete as possible. Accordingly, there are many linguistic formulas found in any language whose functions are intended for comparing certain entities which is difficult to perceive to other ones which are more familiar to do so. Those formulas are simile, metaphor, metonymy, proverb, etc. Proverb according to Hornby (2015, p. 1199) is a well known phrase or sentence that gives advice or says something that is generally true. Meanwhile, Kamus Besar Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian Big Dictionary) states that proverb is phrases or sentences which have fixed structures that are commonly used to analogize something. It contains comparison, advice, way of life, and behaviour conduct (Sugono et als. (2014, p.1055). Proverb can be classified based on various criteria. One of which is the word consisted by the

Abstrak: Makalah ini bertujuan untuk memerikan berbagai ranah target yang mungkin diacu oleh ranah sumber ayam 'chiken' yang terdapat pada peribahasa Indonesia. Dengan mengamati data yang dikumpulkan dari buku peribahasa Indonesia, ditemukan bahwa ayam sebagai salah satu binatang yang banyak dipelihara oleh orang Indonesia dapat dimanfaatkan secara metaforis untuk mengacu berbagai ranah target, seperti dari yang paling umum ke yang paling khusus: keadaan manusia, sifat manusia, masalah, keberuntungan, kebenaran dan kepalsuan.

Kata-kata Kunci: peribahasa, metafora, ranah sumber, ranah target
formula. As such, as far as Indonesian proverb is concerned, there are proverb of air ‘water’, proverb of abu ‘ash’, proverb of padi ‘rice’, and proverb of ayam ‘chiken’, etc. In this matter, air, abu, padi, and ayam constitute more familiar entities compared to anything the language speakers want to resemble. In metaphorical or figurative framework, they are used as source domains of target domains the speakers intended to. This paper aims to describe various target domains possibly resembled by Indonesian words ayam ‘chiken’ found in its proverbs. This choice is underlain by the fact that Chiken is one of the Indonesian lexical items mostly used by its speakers for creating idiomatic expressions. More specifically speaking, there are not less than 60 Indonesian proverbs use this lexical unit for creating traditional proverbs (Chaniago & Pratama, 2004, p. 64-69).

Chiken is one of the most common animals raised by farmers in many parts of the world. It is exploited for its eggs, meat, and feather. Chiken egg and meat are consumed for source of animal protein, and its feathers are used for making duster and other handicrafts. In some parts of the world, this animal is raised for pet and rooster fight. In narrower scopes, Bali and Java, chiken are used for gambling medium (Setia, 1987; Geertz, 1992; Wijana, 2008, Wijana, 2021, Wasidi, 1980). The close relation between chiken and human life makes this animal to be the commonest comparison medium to various things and problems faced by them. This matter, in turn, is clearly reflected in the use of language one of which is proverb. Hai Yan (2016, p.21-30) notes that horse is the most common animal used constructing Chinese idiomatic expressions, while Indonesian people use chiken for conducting this purposes. Unfortunately, this issue has not been studied seriously by Indonesian linguists who pay attention to study of idiom or proverb.

B. PREVIOUS STUDIES
So far, the most comprehensive study regarding Indonesian proverbs, has been done By Arimi (2016). Arimi’s study about proverb focuses on categorization, structure, and its vitality. Meanwhile, Wijana (2009) is a study on exploitation of proverbial expressions in creating sexual jokes. Rahyono (2015, 206) studies proverb as one kind among various genres of Javanese formula (unen-unen) containing wisdom. He distinguishes Javanese proverb into categories: paribasan which does not contain comparison, bebasan which contains comparison, and Saloka which compares human beings with other things. Hendrokumoro (2017) focuses his study about Javanese proverb on structure, meaning, and
communicative function. The study done by Wijana (2020, p.249-257) deals with the Javanese proverb interpretation in relation with disease avoidance in overcoming covid-19 pandemic. There is only one study dealt with Indonesian Proverb that try to observe the possibility of target domains might be referred by the word borne within. Wijana (2021a), tries to search various possibilities of target domains can be referred by Indonesian word air 'water'. In this paper, he found that water in Indonesian proverbs can be used to figuratively refer to various kinds of target domain. Those are work and activity, sadness and happiness, badness and goodness, help and things, event, place, personal relation, and words have been uttered. This study constitutes repercussion my endeavour in understanding Indonesian proverb by searching another Indonesian word, ayam 'chiken' which is also commonly used as source domain in Indonesian proverbial expressions.

C. THEORETICAL FRAME WORK
Like any other figurative expressions, metaphor, simile, idiom, etc., proverbs also contain comparison but in higher level. Metaphor, simile, and idiom contain it in word and phrase level, whilst proverb in sentence level. As far as figurative containing expressions are concerned, proverbs usually contain words exploited as source domain (vehicle) to refer to abstract conception constituting the target domain (tenor) of the comparison (Kovecses 2006, p.347; Wijana, 2016, p.57). Source domain is more familiar entities compared to its target domain (Foley, 2001, p.182). Because chiken is one of the most common live stocks to raise, this animal will become very popular to find in proverbs. Unfortunately, what target domains might possibly referred by this animal, up till now have not been revealed by the scholars. This is the main reason underlain this paper writing.

D. METHOD
Nearly all data presented in this paper are extraction of proverbs found in proverb compilation book entitled 7700 peribahasa Indonesia (7700 proverbs in Indonesian) (Chaniago & Pratama, 2004, p. 64–69). Firstly, all proverbs containing or under heading of ayam 'chiken' are collected. Further, the literal meaning and figurative meaning of those proverbs are carefully observed for identifying the possible target domains referred by the source domain, the word ayam 'chiken' itself. Finally, those target domains are classified, and described beginning with the most common and followed with the less common ones.
E. RESEARCH FINDINGS
After having observed the data carefully, it is found that ayam 'chiken' are figuratively used to refer to various target domains in Indonesian proverbs. Those target domains are human state, human character, problem, luck, and truth and falsity. Everything concerns with these target domains will be consecutively describe in the following sections.

Human State
There are many states associated with human being can be the target domains of ayam in Indonesian proverbs. Rich people for instance can be described using phrase ayam bertelur 'chiken lays egg'. In (1) ayam represents a rich person, whilst in (2) does with someone who can not exploit their wealth.

1. Ayam bertelur di lumbung padi 'chiken lays egg in rice barn'
2. Ayam bertelur di lumbung padi mati kelaparan 'chiken laying egg in rice barn dies of hunger'

Meanwhile the poor person is figuratively represented by ayam mengetas 'scraping chiken' and ayam makan rumput 'chiken eats grass' as shown by proverb (3), (4), (5) below:

3. Bagai ayam tidak mengetas, tidak makan 'Like chiken, no eating without scraping'
4. Bagai ayam makan rumput 'like chiken eating grass'
5. Bagai ayam, kais pagi makan pagi, kais petang makan petang 'just like a chiken, morning scraping for morning, and evening scraping for evening'

A weak person is often symbolized by ayam betina 'hen', and opposedly a strong one is done by ayam jantan 'rooster' eventhough the masculinity is expressed implicatively by its ability or inability to fight in gelanggang 'arena'. Consider (6) to (10) below:

6. Digelepur ayam betina 'it is attacked by hen'
7. Dijadikan ayam betina 'It is treated as hen'
8. Dibuat bagai ayam betina, badan ditindih, kepala dipatuk 'It is treated as hen, the body is heaped on, and the head is pecked'
9. Ayam tangkas di gelanggang 'like agile rooster in fughting arena'
10. Baik membawa resmi ayam betina 'It is good for fighting hen'

Meanwhile, ayam 'chiken' in (11) and (12) represent a weak person that needs protection.
11. Bagai ayam kehilangan induknya 'like a young chiken loses its mother hen'
12. Ayam berinduk, sirih berjunjung 'chiken has hen, betel plant has abutment'

However, a hopeless person *ayam patah* 'broken legged chiken' sometime gets fortune, like described by (13) below:

13. Mana tahu ayam patah dapat manikam 'Who knows the broken legged chiken gets a precious stone'

A nice looking girl is sometime metaphorically described by *ayam* 'chiken', such as shown by (14) and (15) below which respectively illustrates a beautiful girl and a nice lady loved by two gentlemen.

14. Bagai ayam mengarang telur 'like a chiken create its egg'
15. Ayam seekor bertambang dua 'One chiken has two ties'

Contrarily *ayam* 'chiken' can also symbolize unexperienced girl, such as *ayam gadis* 'young hen' which lays its egg in any place. Thi is intended to describe any person who does their work unsystematically or disorderly. A woman who has been disgraced by man is figuratively described by *ayam* 'chiken', while the man is done by musang 'fox'. Consider (16) and (17) below:

16. Bagai ayam gadis bertelur 'Like young hen lays egg'
17. Ayam telah dimusang 'the chiken is eaten by fox'

People with bad physical condition are analogically compared with ayam, such as shown by the following (18) and (19) below:

18. Bagai ayam mabuk tahu 'like chiken drunk of soya bean curd'
19. Bagai ayam dimakan tungau 'like chiken eaten by mite'

The last two proverbs both describe that the people are pale because of the disease effect. Finally, the sound of human breath because of any kind of out breath problem, such as asthma, can be compared with the state experienced by *ayam* 'chiken'. See (20) below:

20. Seperti ayam termakan rambut 'Like chiken eating hairs'

*Ayam* 'chiken' can also represent human in state of getting happiness, such as illustrates by (21) below:

21. Bagai ayam mendapat ubi 'like chiken getting tuber'

Old person or male parent is sometime compared with chiken. In (22) the word *ayam* 'chiken' represents a male parent gives moral teaching to their child, and in (23) it is used to represent many children they possessed as result of polygami.

22. Bagai ayam patuk anaknya 'Like hen pecking its young'
23. Bagai bapak ayam 'Like a rooster'
There are still other emotional states experienced by human beings that can be metaphorically expressed by sorce domain ayam 'chiken'. A dangerous person is represented by ayam bertaji 'rooster with the spur on', easily amazed person by ayam dibawa ke lampok 'chiken brought to hay pile', and in relation with musang 'fox' and elang 'eagle', chiken 'ayam' is used to represent fear anxiety.

24. Bagai ayam lepas bertaji 'Like a released chiken with spur on'
25. Bagai ayam di bawa ke lampok 'Like a chiken brought to a hay pile'
26. Bagai ayam melihat musang 'Like chiken seeing fox'
27. Bagai ayam melihat elang 'Like chiken seeing eagle'

Human Character
Coexisting with musang 'fox', ayam 'chiken' can be intended to refer to 'a good person', while the wicked one is represented by musang itself. Consider (28) below:

28. Bagai, musang berbulu ayam 'Like fox in chiken clothing'

Proverb (28) is equivalent of (29) below in which musang is resembled with serigala 'wolf' and ayam 'chiken' with domba 'sheep'.

29. Bagai serigala berbulu domba 'Like wolf in sheep clothing'

Arrogant personality of someone is symbolized by the chiken crow or its ability to lay egg which is often not equal to that arrogance. Consider (30) and (31) below. Proverb (30) describes metaphorically the person's arrogance which is not compatible with what he has actually done. In (31) the arrogant person is bussy talking about his low ability, but the real clever person always keeps silent, never shows their high ability.

30. Setiap ayam jago berkokok di atas gundukan kotorannya sendiri 'every rooster crows on the heap of its dropping'
31. Ayam bertelur sebutir ribut seluruh negeri, penyu bertelur seribu tiada seorang pun yang tahu 'A chiken usually makes noisy sound the whole country even just lays one egg, while the turtle always keep silent, and noone knows, even though it has laid a thousand eggs.

In the following (32), the arrogant person often feels that they are the only person can perform the task or job.

32. Seekor ayam tak berkokok, hari tak siangkah 'If just only one rooster not crowing, won't the day become noon?'

Talkative person is often symbolized by ekor ayam 'cock tail' that always keeps snout or stuck out. See (33) below:
33. Muncung seperti ekor ayam 'stucked out like chiken tail'. Stuck out is an illustration of human mouth when it is used for talking or expressing unpleasant matter.

Human character is predestined and difficult to change. No matter how hard effort exerted to change it, the condition will be unchangable. This fixed condition can be illustrated using ayam in Indonesian proverbs. Consider (34) and (35) below that say everyone will return to their origin or anyone will show their own character:

34. Asal ayam ke lesung, asal itik ke pelimbahan 'The origin of chiken is mortar, the origin of duck is garbage dump'

35. Ayam balik ke pelesungan, pipit balik ke penjemuran 'Chiken will return to mortar place, and sparrow to drying place.

Similar to (34) and (35), (36) and (37) below also concerns with the same matter, predestined human character.

36. Ayam beroga itu meski diberi makan di pinggan emas sekali pun, ke hutan juga perginya 'A jungle fowl eventhough is fed with a gold plate will finally goes to forrest'

37. Ayam menetaskan telur itik, anaknya ke air juga perginya 'Like chiken hatching duck egg, the young will go to the water'.

Problem

Human life is full of problems. They must always take certain actions to cope with them. Some problems are easy to identify, and some of them are difficult to do so. As such, there are two kinds of human problem. Those are clear and unclear or dark problem. The clear one is metaphorically expressed by ayam putih 'white chiken', and the unclear by ayam hitam 'dark chiken'. See (38) and (39) below:

38. Ayam hitam terbang malam 'Black chiken flies at night time'

39. Ayam putih terbang siang 'White chiken flies at day time'

These last two proverbs have longer versions, as shown by (40) and (41) below:

40. Ayam hitam terbang malam, bertali ijuk, bertambang tanduk, hinggap di kebun rimbun 'Black chiken flies at night time, tie with palm fiber and horn, perches in a lush garden'

41. Ayam putih, terbang siang, hinggap di kayu merasi, bertali benang bertambang tulang 'White chiken flies at day time, perches on leafless wood, tied with string and bone'
"Ijuk 'palm fiber', *tanduk 'horn', and *kebun rimbu* 'lush garden' metaphorically symbolized unclear or difficult solved problems. Conversely, *kayu merasi* 'leafless wood', *benang 'string' and tulang 'bone' symbolized a clear and an easy problem. In some proverbs, *ayam putih* can also refer to 'an easy identified person'. Where ever they are, it is easy to recognize. See (42) below:

42. Seperti ayam putih 'like a white chiken'

Some problems faced by human beings are not easy to predict or account what will come next. With regard to this matter, ayam is used to metaphorically express. See (41) to (43) below:

43. Ayam sudang bersabung.
44. Bagai menghitung anak ayam sebelum ditetaskan 'Like accounting young chiken before being hatched'
45. Bagai menggantang anak ayam 'Like measuring young chiken'

Proverb (45) concerns with job or work that is very hard to realize because the instrument used to do is incompatible. Gantang is an instrument for weighing rice. Indonesian has alot of proverbs for expressing such a matter but using other source domains, water 'air'. See (46) to (48) velow:

46. Bagai mencincang air 'like to chop water'
47. Seperti menyurat di atas air Like writing on the water
48. Bagai membandarkan air ke bukit 'like flowing water to the hill'

**Luck**

Human beings are always expecting lucks and avoiding bad lucks in undergoing their daily life. With regard to luck, a lot of Indonesian proverbs exploit ayam 'chiken' for their figurative expressions, such as shown by the following examples:

49. Ayam ditambat disambar elang 'the tied chiken is swooped by eagle'
50. Ayam menang kampuh tergadai 'The chiken win, but the straps are pawned'
51. Ayam dapat, musang pun dapat 'get either chiken or fox'

Proverb (49) describes luck which dissapears swooped by something represent by elang 'eagle', (50) describes luck which is not eual to its expense, and (51) illustrates two fortunes gained with different source domains *ayam 'chiken'* and *musang 'fox'*. 

**Truth and Falsity**
As an advice, alot of proverbs concerns with truth and falsity. As far as animals used as metaphorical source domains are concerned, the truth often relates with the sound of those creatures. With regard to ayam 'chiken', the Indonesian language uses verb menciap 'chirping'. As such the chiken and the sound it poroduces can be used to symbolize truth. See (52) below:

52. Seciap bak ayam, sedencing bak besi. 'Chirping like chiken, jingling like iron'

Proverb (52) is used to represent agreement has been achived among the people for carriying certain purpose. Idiomatic expressions like (53) and (54) below use describe falsity.

53. Hangat-hangat tahi ayam 'warm like chiken shit'
54. Tidur-tidur ayam 'pretending to sleep'

Proverb (53) can also be used to describe an event which is boisterously talked, but longer and longer will be forgetful.

F. CONCLUSION
Ayam 'chiken' as one of the most familiar animals to raise can be found Indonesian proverbs. This animal is exploited as source domain of various interelated target domains. Those target domains are human state, human character, problem, luck, and truth and falsity. Because language is human institution, most of the target domains referred by ayam 'chiken' related to human state and human character.

G. REFERENCES


