

ANALYSIS OF CULTURAL MEANING, AND STRUCTURAL TYPOLOGY GREETINGS TO RESPECT THE VARIOUS MILITARY LANGUAGES OF THE TNI NAVY IN HISTORICAL PERSPECTIVE

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ARTICLE HISTORY

Received : 30-10-2025

Revised : 15-11-2025

Accepted : 15-12-2025

KEYWORDS

Cultural Meaning
Structural Typology
Military Language
TNI Navy
Historical Perspective

ABSTRACT

This study aims to analyze the cultural meaning and structural typology of the salutation used in the various military languages of the Indonesian Navy, as well as to trace its historical development in the socio-cultural context of the Indonesian military. The military language of the Indonesian Navy has its own characteristics that reflect discipline, hierarchy, and honor values that are firmly rooted in the culture of military organizations. The method used is a qualitative descriptive method with a cultural, and historical linguistic approach. Data were obtained through observations, interviews, and studies of official documents and military archives. The results of the study show that the salutation in the military language of the TNI AL has a social and symbolic function that affirms identity, solidarity, and hierarchical structure between members. In terms of structural typology, it was found that there was a pattern of greetings that were systematically arranged based on rank, position, and the context of formal and informal communication. Meanwhile, culturally, each form of greeting contains basic values such as loyalty, respect for superiors, and corps spirit. From a historical perspective, the use of the greeting has evolved from the influence of colonial military traditions to the formation of a national identity that is typical of Indonesia. Thus, the greeting of respect in the military language of the TNI Navy is not only a form of verbal communication, but also a reflection of cultural values, military discipline, and historical heritage that shape the character of the TNI Navy institution to this day.

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INTRODUCTION

Language is the main means of human communication that not only serves as a means of conveying messages, but also reflects cultural values, social norms, and hierarchical systems that apply in a community. In the military context, language has a very important role because it is an instrument for creating discipline, assertiveness, and respect among soldiers. One of the typical forms of language use in the military environment is the *greeting of respect*, which has a deep social and cultural meaning as a form of military identity, ethics, and manners.

The Indonesian Navy as one of the dimensions of the Indonesian National Army has a distinctive communication system, both verbally and nonverbally. The variety of languages used within the Navy reflects the hierarchical organizational structure and values such as loyalty, honor, and devotion. Salutations such as "Commander", "Lettu", "Corporal", or "Siap Laks!" are not just formal calls, but have cultural meanings that represent the social relations between superiors and subordinates, corps solidarity, and military identity.

From a historical perspective, the variety of military languages of the Navy has developed along with the long journey of formation of the identity and professionalism of naval soldiers. In the early days of independence, the tradition of military greetings and communication was still heavily influenced by maritime language and culture as well as colonial heritage. However, with the development of time and the formation of the national military doctrine, a distinctive system of greetings emerged, adapted to the organizational structure and cultural values of the Indonesian nation. This makes military language not only a means of communication, but also a historical artifact that records the dynamics of social and cultural changes within the Navy.

From a linguistic perspective, the greeting of respect can be analyzed through two important approaches: cultural meaning and structural typology. Cultural significance analysis highlights the cultural values and ideologies contained in the use of military language, while structural typology analysis examines the form, pattern, and grammatical function of such greetings in sentence structure. Thus, this study not only reveals the formal linguistic aspect, but also explains the social and cultural values inherent in communication between members of the Navy.

Analysis of the cultural meaning and structural typology of salutations in the military language of the Navy is important because it contains the values of nationalism, military ethics, and the cultural heritage of the organization that continue to be maintained from generation to generation. With a historical approach, this study can reveal how the system of salutation is formed, developed, and functions in strengthening the social cohesion and identity of the Indonesian Navy corps.

This research is important because the variety of military languages is often closed and only known in the internal environment, even though it contains an effective, efficient, and culturally meaningful communication system. In addition, understanding the salutation system can enrich the study of Indonesian cultural linguistics, especially in the context of institutional language which has a strategic function in maintaining discipline and social hierarchy. Therefore, an in-depth analysis of the cultural meaning and structural typology of the salutation in the various military languages of the Indonesian Navy is expected to contribute to the development of sociolinguistic, pragmatic, and linguistic anthropology studies in Indonesia.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

This research is a qualitative research, and the research method used is the anthropological linguistic method. This study describes the variety of languages in the form of salutations associated with cultural behavior in the traditions of the Indonesian National Army Navy which can be observed in its entirety and can be described. This research is a literature study or library research. For this reason, this research was not co-opted at the place where the research took place. Meanwhile, the research took place from September to October 2025.

Data Collection and Processing Techniques

Data collection and processing were carried out simultaneously because this research is qualitative. The data obtained is directly analyzed to obtain pure data and research problems are sharpened. Data is considered sufficient when there is saturation or additional data is no longer needed. However, as long as the research is not completed, the data obtained is still being verified to see the truth. As long as the research continues to roll and what is called *snowball sampling* occurs, it means that after the data is collected through informants and then processed, the data is collected continuously without limits, continuous and increasing so that it reaches a level of completeness and no new information is needed. In this regard, according to Lofland and Lofland in Moleong (1990) the main source of data in qualitative research is words and actions, the rest are additional data such as documents and others.

The interview technique used to obtain the data of greetings follows the ethnographic interview technique as stated by Spradley (1979). These questions are in the form of descriptive questions consisting of *grand tour questions*, *mini tour questions*, *example questions*, *basic experience questions*, and questions in various military terms (*local language questions*).

The data processing technique used is that the data is analyzed following the analysis method from Hymes. According to Hymes in (Eastman, 1975) speech ethnography intends to explicitly describe a set of speech components or components. The speech component is acronymized with "SPEAKING", namely: S = Setting and Scene, P = Participants, E = Ends, A = Act Sequence, K = Key, I = Instrumentalities, N = Norms of Interaction, G = Genres.

RESEARCH RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Cultural Meaning of Salutation in Military Language of the Navy

The salute of respect within the TNI Navy not only serves as a means of communication, but also as a symbol of respect and reflection of military cultural values. In the context of the culture of military organizations, each form of greeting has a social function that strengthens the relationship between superiors and subordinates, fosters a sense of discipline, and forms a character of loyalty to institutions and the state.

Greetings such as "Commander", "Admiral", "Siap Laks!", and "Command Ready!" reflect the values of honor and obedience. The phrase "Ready" indicates a soldier's readiness to receive orders and carry out duties without hesitation. Meanwhile, the mention of ranks or positions such as "Commander" and "Admiral" indicates recognition of the authority, position, and responsibilities inherent in a person within the military structure.

This cultural meaning is closely related to the military ethos, namely discipline, responsibility, loyalty, and solidarity. These values form a distinctive communication system and distinguish military language from civilian language. In the tradition of the Navy, the greeting of respect is a media for the cultural heritage of the organization to create a sense of corps identity, pride in the profession, and a sense of unity among soldiers.

In addition, the greeting also represents the cultural values of the Indonesian nation such as manners, manners, and respect for seniority. Thus, the military language of the Indonesian Navy is not only functional, but also contains a deep symbolic and cultural meaning.

Structural Typology of Salutation

From a linguistic point of view, salutations in military language have a distinctive, concise, and firm structure. Morphologically, **the** form of greeting usually consists of one or two core words, for example:

- "Commander!"
- "Laksamana!"
- "Ready Laks!"
- "Command ready!"

The word "Ready" serves as a form of readiness (performative verb) that indicates a response to a command or call, while the second element such as "Laks" or "Order" serves as an affirmation of the context of communication (greeting and the greeter). Structures like this exhibit the main characteristics of military language — brief, concise, clear, and unambiguous.

Syntactically speaking, sentences in military language tend to be declarative or imperative, according to the communication needs in operational situations. Example:

- "Ready Commander, the report is complete!"
- "Carry out the order, immediately!" This pattern of sentences indicates a hierarchy of communication, where the form of speech describes the vertical relationship between the giver and receiver of the command.

This structural typology shows that military language is built on the principles of efficiency, adherence to the command structure, and clarity of meaning. There is no room for ambiguity because every word has the potential to affect the execution of tasks in the field.

Military language has a distinctive communication system, different from the everyday language used by civilians. The Navy's military language variety is designed to meet the needs of fast, firm, efficient, and ambiguity-free communication. The structural typology of salutation includes aspects of form, sentence patterns, syntactic functions, and the relationship between the form of language and the social meaning contained in it.

General Features of Military Language Structure

The structure of the TNI Navy's military language is short, concise, and direct to the core of the message. In formal communication, each speech has a clear purpose of giving orders, reporting, affirming readiness, or responding

to

superiors.

Its structural characteristics include:

It is imperative and declarative.

The sentences used are often in the form of commands (*imperatives*), for example:

- "Carry out the order!"
- "Prepare a report immediately!"

Declarative forms are used in the delivery of reports or information, such as:

- "Report done, Commander!"

Contains an element of respect (honorific).

Greetings such as "*Commander*," "*Admiral*," "*Dan*," or "*Siap Laks!*" shows a system of respect for positions and hierarchies.

Fixed and formulaic structure.

The use of salutations is permanent and cannot be changed. For example, a subordinate would not greet his superior with "Good morning, Commander," but rather directly "Ready Commander!" to demonstrate linguistic discipline.

Structure Pattern of Salutation

The structural typology of the salute salute in the Navy can be analyzed through the following morphological and syntactic forms:

a. Direct Greeting Unit Pattern (Noun + Respect Intonation)

This form is used to greet or respond to the boss directly. Example:

- "Commander!"
- "Laksamana!"
- "Captain!"

This pattern shows a direct call form with a firm tone and a ready attitude. Nonverbal elements (intonation, gestures of respect) reinforce the meaning of respect in greetings.

Responsive Greeting Pattern (Verb + Noun)

Used to respond to commands or calls from superiors. The pattern is the *verb readiness* followed by the *greeting of the position*. Example:

- "Ready Commander!"
- "Ready Laks!"
- "Ready And!"

The word "Ready" serves as a performative verb that expresses readiness to carry out orders, while the word "Commander" or "Laks" serves as a noun that marks a respected person.

Functional Sentence Pattern (Verb + Noun + Task Description)

Used to report or confirm the execution of tasks. Example:

- "Ready Commander, the report is complete!"
- "The report is ready to be implemented, Dan!"
- "Ready Laks, the order is carried out!"

This structure shows a dual function: as a form of respect and a report of responsibility for the orders given.

Morphological and Syntactic Analysis

Morphologically, the TNI Navy's salutation is dominated by root words that have not undergone many changes in shape. This morphological simplicity aims to ensure that communication in the field takes place quickly and effectively.

Syntactically, the salutation shows a hierarchical relationship between the speaker (subordinate) and the listener (superior). The subject in a sentence is often omitted (implicitly) because it is already understood in the context of military communication. For example, in the sentence "Ready Commander!", the subject "I" is not spoken, but is understood as a subordinate who is responding to orders.

In addition, sentence structures in military languages often use inversion and ellipsis patterns, where certain elements can be omitted without diminishing meaning. Example:

- "Command to execute!" (ellipsis from "Orders to be carried out immediately.")
- "Ready to Report!" (ellipsis from "I'm ready to report.")

Functional Typology in the Military Hierarchy

Each form of salutation has a different function according to the context of the hierarchy and the communication situation:

| Communication Function | Example of Greeting | Meaning and Purpose |
|------------------------|------------------------------------|---|
| Honor | "Commander!" / "Admiral!" | Acknowledging the authority and position of superiors |
| Readiness | "Ready Commander!" / "Ready Laks!" | Demonstrate preparedness and compliance |
| Reporting | "Report done, Commander!" | Convey the results of tasks or responsibilities |
| Command affirmation | "Carry out the order!" | Give direct and firm instructions |
| Task response | "Ready to Execute!" | Confirm the execution of the order |

This typology suggests that the system of salutation does not stand alone, but becomes an integral part of the military communication structure oriented towards discipline, effectiveness, and clarity of hierarchy.

Relationship of Cultural Structure and Value

The structure of the salutation reflects not only the linguistic form, but also the military cultural values that underlie it. The "Ready + Greeting Position" pattern reflects the spirit of obedience, responsibility, and respect. The uniformity of the language structure is also a means of forming the collective identity of the soldiers, where every word spoken reinforces the values of the corps, such as loyalty, honor, and togetherness.

Thus, the structural typology of salutation in the Navy shows the integration between the form of language (structure), social function (hierarchical relationship), and cultural values (respect and discipline). Language is a medium to strengthen military ethics as well as a symbol of the identity of Indonesian sea soldiers.

Historical Perspective on the Development of Honorable Greetings

The military language of the Indonesian Navy is the result of a long evolution that is closely related to the journey of Indonesian military history. Since the establishment of the Sea People's Security Army (TKR Laut) on September 10, 1945, the communication system and greetings have become an important part of shaping the discipline, loyalty, and identity of the corps. In the historical context, the development of the greeting of respect can be divided into several important periods that reflect the social, political, and cultural dynamics of the nation.

Early Period of Independence (1945–1950): Formation of National Military Identity

In the early days of independence, Indonesia's organizational structure and military communication were still heavily influenced by the Dutch and Japanese colonial systems. Many military terms and greetings still use European styles such as *Commander*, *Admiral*, *Sergeant*, and so on. However, at the same time, there is a national awareness to adapt the military language to Indonesian values and culture.

In this period, greetings of respect began to be combined with the spirit of nationalism and devotion. Phrases like "Ready Commander!" and "Execute!" It is a special form of communication that affirms readiness and obedience to the command, as well as reflects the spirit of the struggle to defend independence.

Period of Organizational Consolidation (1950–1970): Formation of Military Language Traditions and Structures

Entering the consolidation period, the Navy of the Republic of Indonesia (ALRI) began to build a more standard communication system and military protocol. During this period, the tradition of official greetings began to develop, especially in the relationship between superiors and subordinates.

The application of greeting terms such as "Siap Laks!", "Ready And!", and "Report Command Ready!" became a symbol of military discipline and manners. Language not only serves as a practical function, but also becomes a tool for asserting command structures and respect within military hierarchies. During this period, a military code of ethics and grammar emerged that emphasized the distinctive character of Navy communication that was short, straightforward, and free of ambiguity. This is in line with the establishment of a national military doctrine that is oriented towards the professionalism and honor of soldiers.

Period of Modernization and Professionalization (1970–1998): Strengthening Corps Culture and Language Ethics

Along with the development of technology and the modernization of the armed forces, the TNI Navy strengthens its internal communication system by emphasizing language ethics and courtesy. Military language is an instrument of mental and moral development, as well as a medium of inheriting corps values to a new generation of soldiers.

Nowadays, every form of salutation is considered not only a formality, but also a reflection of the esprit de corps. For example, the greeting "Ready to Carry It Out, Commander!" It shows absolute obedience to commands, while the tone and intonation in its delivery reflect an attitude of respect, responsibility, and dedication.

Reform Period to the Present (1998–present): Adaptation and Preservation of Traditional Values

After the reform era, the Navy continued to adapt to the demands of the times, including in the use of language and greetings. Despite reforms in the education system, communication technology, and military protocols, traditional values in the salutation have been maintained.

Phrases like "Ready Commander!", "Ready Laks!", and "Command Ready!" It is still widely used as a symbol of respect and discipline. However, the context of its use is now more flexible and adapted to formal and informal situations in military activities.

This phenomenon shows that military language is dynamic, but it is still rooted in the historical and cultural values that shape the identity of the Indonesian Navy as part of the maritime tradition of the Indonesian nation.

Historical Reflection

The course of history shows that the system of greeting respect in the Navy is not just the result of habit, but part of the historical process of forming organizational culture. From the time of struggle to the modern era, military language has become a forum for internalizing noble values such as discipline, honor, devotion, and solidarity.

Therefore, each salute has a historical and symbolic meaning that connects the past, present, and future of the Indonesian Navy corps. Language is a reflection of the fighting spirit of sea warriors who not only maintain the sovereignty of the waters, but also preserve the identity and maritime culture of the Indonesian nation.

Historically, the development of the various military languages of the Indonesian Navy is inseparable from the process of forming the organization of the Indonesian Navy (ALRI) in 1945. In the early days of independence, the communication system and military greetings were heavily influenced by the tradition of the ALKN (Royal Netherlands Navy) and the colonial rank system. However, along with the development of the TNI's identity as a national military, the language and greetings in the military have undergone a process of linguistic nationalization, namely adjustment to cultural values and the Indonesian language.

In the 1950s–1970s, the Indonesian Navy began to develop a greeting system that reflected the spirit of nationalism and discipline typical of Indonesia. Greetings such as "Ready Commander!" became an official form of respect and continue to be used today. In each period of its history, military language has always undergone adaptations according to organizational developments, technology, and defense doctrine.

Until modern times, the Indonesian Navy maintains a system of salutation as part of its maritime historical and cultural identity. This tradition reflects the spirit of togetherness, honor, and devotion inherited from the first generation of freedom fighter sailors. Thus, the greeting of respect is not only an official form of language, but also a symbol of the continuity of the history and culture of the Navy.

Linguistic and Socio-Cultural Implications

Linguistic Implications

From a linguistic point of view, the results of the analysis show that the various military languages of the Indonesian Navy have their own characteristics that distinguish them from the common language (civilian language).

Forms of salutation such as "*Ready Commander*", "*Ready Laks!*", or "*Command Ready!*" It reflects a communication system that is short, concise, and has multiple meanings while conveying information, attitudes, and respect in a single speech. The linguistic implications that emerge include:

Structural peculiarities of military language . Sentence structure in military communication tends to be imperative and declarative with simple but meaningful syntactic patterns. This reinforces the hallmark of military language as an efficient, fast, and unambiguous communication system.

Development of a special lexicon (military register). The military language of the Indonesian Navy forms a special vocabulary that is only known in the internal environment, for example the terms "*Ready to Execute Order*", "*Full Report*", and "*Carry Out Sea Guard*". This register enriches the linguistic treasures of the Indonesian language by adding variants of various functional languages.

Hierarchical communication patterns. Linguistically, the structure of the greeting reflects the vertical social system that exists in the military. The forms of greetings and commands indicate power relations, differences in status, and responsibilities between members.

Institutional linguistic cultural heritage. Military language is a form of institutional language that is inherited through education and training. This proves that language can function as a tool for shaping professional and social identity.

Thus, linguistically, the various salutations of the Navy show a close relationship between the form of language, social function, and the cultural context of the organization. It is proof that the structure of language can adapt to the needs of communication in a given social system.

Socio-Cultural Implications

From a socio-cultural perspective, the salute salute in the military language of the Navy has strategic value in maintaining corps identity, military ethics, and social solidarity among soldiers.

Socio-cultural implications that can be drawn include:

The formation of a collective identity (corps). The salute serves as a symbol of the unity and pride of the corps. The use of uniform greetings strengthens a sense of belonging, solidarity, and honor among fellow members of the Navy.

Strengthening of military cultural values. Language is a medium for inheriting values such as loyalty, discipline, obedience, and respect for hierarchy. Through consistent language practice, these values are internalized in every soldier and become part of the organization's culture.

Reflection on national cultural values. The greeting of respect in the Indonesian Navy cannot be separated from the cultural values of the Indonesian nation, such as good manners, respect for seniority, and mutual cooperation. Thus, the variety of military language is not only an institutional product, but also a reflection of the nation's civilized and ethical character.

Continuity of the organization's history and cultural heritage . The use of salutations that has remained consistent since the early days of the Navy's establishment shows the sustainability of tradition and the preservation of historical heritage. This linguistic tradition has become part of the collective memory and historical identity of the Navy.

Thus, socio-culturally, the salute plays a role as a guardian of ethical values, a symbol of honor, and a medium for the formation of military identity. Language is not only a means of communication, but also a tool for building meaning, solidarity, and pride in the institutions and nations served.

Analysis of the cultural meaning and structural typology of salutations in the Navy shows that military language has a dual function as a means of communication and as a shaping of organizational culture. Linguistically, military language exhibits distinctiveness in structure and function that is different from common language, while socio-culturally, it becomes a medium for internalizing the values of discipline, loyalty, and pride of the corps.

Through a historical perspective, it can be understood that the system of salutation developed not only because of the need for communication, but also as a result of the process of forming the identity and honorary symbol of Indonesian naval soldiers. Thus, the military language of the Indonesian Navy is a manifestation of the historical journey, organizational culture, and spirit of nationalism that lives in the Indonesian military environment.

Analysis of the cultural meaning and structural typology of salutations in the various military languages of the Navy shows that these forms of greetings not only function as formal communication tools, but also reflect cultural values that are alive and upheld in the military environment.

Culturally, the greeting of respect describes the values of hierarchy, discipline, loyalty, respect, and the spirit of korsa (corps solidarity). Use greetings such as "*Ready, Commander!*" "*Report, Lieutenant!*", or "*Permission to report, Captain!*" shows respect for the command structure and the role of each individual in the military organization. The language is also a symbol of nationalism and devotion to the country, which is strongly attached to the identity of TNI Navy soldiers.

Meanwhile, structurally, the greeting of respect has characteristics in the form of a short, firm, standard, and formal sentence pattern, with a structure that generally consists of the word readiness or action followed by position or rank. This typology emphasizes that military language is functional, efficient, and action-oriented, in accordance with the demands of discipline and firmness in the military world.

From the results of linguistic and socio-cultural analysis, it can be concluded that the variety of military languages of the Indonesian Navy is a manifestation of a communication system that is integrated with cultural, historical, and national identity. This language not only shows commands and greetings, but also instills a spirit of devotion, respect, and loyalty to the Unitary State of the Republic of Indonesia. Thus, the greeting of respect in the various military languages of the TNI Navy is not just a form of formal speech, but also a manifestation of the cultural values of military organizations that instill an attitude of respect, responsibility, solidarity, and devotion to the nation and state.

CONCLUSION

Based on the results of the analysis of the cultural meaning and structural typology of salutations in the various military languages of the Navy, it can be concluded that military language is not only a functional communication tool, but also a representation of cultural, historical, and institutional values. The salute system used in the Navy reflects the strict hierarchical structure, discipline, and respect that are the main foundations of military life.

Culturally, salutations such as "Commander", "Admiral", "Siap Laks!", and "Siap Perinaturan!" contain noble values such as loyalty, honor, loyalty to duty, and respect for superiors. The greeting is not only a form of formal communication, but also a symbol of military ethics that affirms the position and role of each individual in the command system. Thus, the use of salutations serves as a mechanism for internalizing organizational culture and shaping the character of Navy soldiers who are disciplined and have a corps spirit.

Structurally, the salutation in the military language of the Indonesian Navy has a distinctive pattern and shape, both in terms of syntactic and morphological. The structure of the greeting is concise, concise, and straightforward, reflecting the efficient and command-oriented character of military communication. This structural typology suggests that military languages have a different system from common languages, as they are designed to support the effectiveness of command, coordination, and execution of tasks in a military environment.

From a historical perspective, the development of various salutations in the Navy cannot be separated from the long journey of the formation of national military organizations and doctrines. From the early days of independence to the modern era, the greeting system has continued to adapt in accordance with the social, cultural, and organizational dynamics of the Indonesian Navy. However, its essence is still maintained as a cultural heritage that affirms the maritime identity, spirit of devotion, and honorary traditions of sea soldiers.

Thus, it can be concluded that the greeting of respect in various military languages of the Indonesian Navy is a historical and cultural reflection of Indonesian military values. It functions not only as a means of communication, but also as a symbol of loyalty, respect, and pride of the corps that has been inherited from generation to generation in maintaining the honor and identity of the Indonesian Navy as the guardian of Indonesian maritime sovereignty.

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