

[abstract]

THE INDONESIAN *SAMPAI*: FROM SPACE TO THE DEICTICS (OF TIME AND PERSON) AND TO THE PRAGMATICS (OF PRECIPITATION)

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The Indonesian *sampai*, as described in the dictionaries, is primarily to do with space, be it a preposition ('to', 'as far as') or a verb ('to arrive').

- (1) dari Krawang *sampai* Bekasi 'from Krawang to Bekasi'
- (2) Ia *sampai* rumah pukul lima pagi. 'She arrived home at five a.m.'
- (3) Kita tidak akan dapat *sampai* ke kota dalam setengah jam.
'We're not going to reach the town in half an hour.'

The spatial meaning of *sampai* may also be extended for temporal meaning.

- (4) dari pagi *sampai* sore 'from morning to evening'

The spatial meaning of *sampai* may even be extended further, two instances of which Wolff has made an attempt to elucidate. The first (Wolff 1984a:232) is related to space: 'even up to the point that', as in (5).

- (5) Wah, bagus, ya, sawah itu? *Sampai* naik ke atas gunung?
'Those ricefields are beautiful, aren't they? They even go up to the top of the mountains.'

The second (Wolff 1984b:220) with a meaning similar to the first, 'up to the point that', is nothing to do with space; it is synonymous with *sehingga* ('as a result')

- (6) Saya terlalu banyak makan tadi *sampai* saya nggak tapat tidur sekarang.
'I ate so much, up to the point that I cannot sleep now.'

There are still a number of other instances of *sampai* that have never been discussed elsewhere, some of which are translatable into English (as in (8), (9), (14c)), while others are not (as in (7), (10), (11), (14a), (14b)). The English translation, however, does not give a clue as to how to arrive at the core meaning of *sampai*.

- (7) a. Kirimanmu belum *sampai*. [your parcel-not yet-reach-(me)]
b. Saya belum menerima kirimanmu. 'I haven't got your parcel.'

- (8) a. Jangan lupa, ya. 'Don't forget.'

- b. Jangan *sampai* lupa, ya. ‘Don’t ever forget.’
- (9) a. Kalau itu terjadi, [...] ‘If that happens, [...]’
 b. Kalau itu *sampai* terjadi, [...] ‘If that ever happens, [...]’
- (10) a. Maaf, saya lupa telepon tadi. ‘I’m sorry. I forgot to call you.’
 b. Maaf, saya *sampai* lupa telepon tadi. [forget-*sampai*-telephone]
- (11) a. Kamu jangan (*sampai*) pergi, ya! Tugasmu mengawasi orang itu.
 ‘You don’t go. Your job is to watch that person.’
 b. Kamu jangan (**sampai*) pergi sekarang, ya. Tunggu lima menit lagi.
 ‘You don’t go now. Wait for another five minutes.’
- (12) Dan Man berharap Marjuki jangan *(*sampai*) tahu bahwa ia adalah [...] ‘Dan Man hoped Marjuki wouldn’t ever know that he is [...]’
- (13) Kita berharap ia jangan (*sampai*) terpilih menjadi rektor.
 ‘We do hope she will not be elected as the president of the university.’
- (14) a. Saya akan berusaha jangan *sampai* kalah. ‘I’ll try my best not to lose [the game]’
 b. Kamu jangan *sampai* kalah, ya. ‘Don’t you lose [the game].’
 c. Dia jangan *sampai* tahu ini. ‘[Hope] she doesn’t ever know this.’

The use of *sampai* may be syntactically optional (as in (8)-(10)), but may also be obligatory (as in (12)). The present paper is an attempt to spell out the core meaning of *sampai*, which may have to do with the deictics of time and person and the pragmatics of precipitation. The latter is in line with the case of *sudah* (‘already’) and *jadi* [lexically untranslatable], as presented in Kaswanti Purwo (2011).

Reference:

- Kaswanti Purwo, Bambang. 2011. “Constructing a new grammar of Indonesian: A trip from expectation to reality”, Conference on “The State of Indonesian Studies”, Cornell University April 29–30, 2011.
- Wolff, John U. 1984a. *Beginning Indonesian*, Part 1. Ithaca: Cornell University, Southeast Asia Program.
- Wolff, John U. 1984b. *Beginning Indonesian*, Part 2. Ithaca: Cornell University, Southeast Asia Program.