

**PHONOLOGICAL INTERFERENCE BY HINDI
IN THE PRONUNCIATION OF ENGLISH PHONEME /t/
IN THE DR. ZAKIR NAIK SPEECH VIDEO**

A GRADUATING PAPER

Submitted in Partial Fulfilment of the Requirements for gaining
the Bachelor's Degree in English Department



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Assalamu 'alaikum Warohmatullahi Wabarakatuh.

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kami menyatakan bahwa skripsi tersebut sudah dapat diajukan pada sidang munaqosyah untuk memenuhi salah satu syarat memperoleh gelar Sarjana Sastra Inggris.

Atas perhatian Bapak Dekan, kami mengucapkan terima kasih.

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Yogyakarta, 29 April 2025

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MOTTO

種一棵樹最好的時間是二十年前. 第二個最好的時間是現在.

Zhǒng yī kē shù zuì hǎo de shíjiān shì èrshí nián qián. Dì èr gè zuì hǎo de shíjiān shì xiànzài.

The best time to plant a tree was twenty years ago. The second-best time is now.

~ Ancient Chinese Words of Wisdom ~



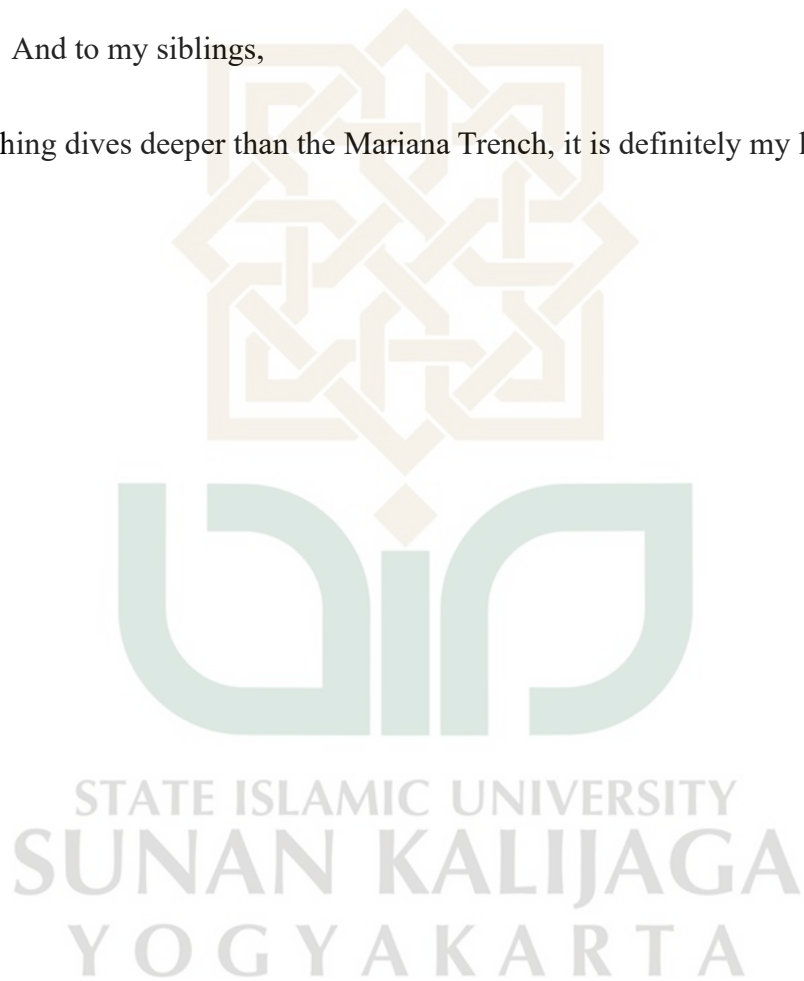
DEDICATION

To my parents,

Who strived the duties of bringing me into this world, by supporting me in every possible way; both education and financial means you provided have raised me to this point.

And to my siblings,

If anything dives deeper than the Mariana Trench, it is definitely my love for you.



VALIDATION PAGE



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FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

A FINAL PROJECT STATEMENT

I certify that this graduate paper is definitely my own work. I am completely responsible for the content of this graduating paper. Other researcher's opinion or findings included in this research is quoted or cited in accordance with ethical standards.

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Yogyakarta, 2nd May 2025

Researcher

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

L1 : *First Language*

L2 : *Second Language*



**Phonological Interference by Hindi in the English Phoneme /t/
in the Dr. Zakir Naik Speech Video**

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ABSTRACT

A large number of individuals speak more than one language. In the acquisition of a second language, the first language pattern will influence the use of the second language. This phenomenon is known as language interference. This research focuses on the phenomenon of English phonological interference in the YouTube video of a Hindi Islamic public lecture, Dr. Zakir Naik. As a global *da'i*, Dr. Zakir Naik frequently speaks in English as his speech can be easily understood by the audience. This study aims to identify Dr. Zakir Naik's realization of the English phoneme /t/. The researcher applies Weinreich (1968) theory to identify the types and the factors causing the phonological interference. The method used to conduct this research is a qualitative research method. To collect the data, the researcher applies a qualitative observation technique, which involves listening and recording Dr. Zakir Naik's video. To analyse the data, the researcher reduces, displays, and interprets the data in the discussion. To simplify the analysis, the researcher classifies the data into three categories, i.e., realization of the English phoneme in the initial, middle, and final. Based on the data analysis, the English phoneme /t/ realized by Dr. Zakir Naik indicates both positive and negative transfer, for the phoneme /t/ is shared identically in English and Hindi. The negative transfer addresses an Actual Phone Substitution type of phonological interference. In addition, several phonological processes occur in the negative transfer. Two factors causing the phonological interference are contribute to the negative transfer in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization, those are; the different phonemic systems and different pronunciations of equivalent phonemes between English and Hindi.

Keywords: *Language Interference, Hindi Phonological System, Retroflexion Process*

Interferensi Fonologi oleh Penutur India pada Fonem Bahasa Inggris /t/ dalam Vidio Ceramah Dr. Zakir Naik

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ABSTRAK

Banyak penutur yang berbicara menggunakan lebih dari satu bahasa. Dalam proses pengakuisisian bahasa kedua, sistem struktur bahasa pertama tentu akan mempengaruhi penggunaan bahasa kedua. Fenomena ini dikenal dengan istilah interferensi bahasa. Penelitian ini berfokus pada fenomena interferensi fonologi yang terjadi pada vidio YouTube ceramah publik berbahasa India oleh da'i muslim terkemuka, yaitu Dr. Zakir Naik. Sebagai seorang da'i internasional, Dr. Zakir Naik kerap kali menyampaikan ceramahnya menggunakan Bahasa Inggris, sehingga lebih mudah dipahami oleh para pendengarnya. Kajian ini bertujuan untuk mengidentifikasi fonem /t/ Bahasa Inggris yang direalisasikan oleh Dr. Zakir Naik. Peneliti menggunakan teori yang digagas oleh Weinreich (1968) untuk mengobservasi jenis dan faktor penyebab terjadinya interferensi fonologi. Metode yang digunakan dalam penelitian ini adalah metode kualitatif. Untuk mengumpulkan data, peneliti menerapkan teknik observasi kualitatif yang melibatkan kegiatan menyimak dan mencatat vidio ceramah Dr. Zakir Naik. Sedangkan untuk menganalisis data, penulis melakukan proses reduksi, penyajian, dan interpretasi data ke dalam pembahasan. Kemudian, data diklasifikasikan ke dalam tiga kategori, yaitu realisasi fonem /t/ di awal, tengah, dan akhir kata untuk mempermudah analisis. Berdasarkan hasil analisi, fonem /t/ yang direalisasikan oleh Dr. Zakir Naik menunjukkan adanya transfer positif dan negatif, hal ini dikarenakan fonem /t/ yang memiliki kemiripan pelafalan dalam Bahasa Inggris dan Bahasa Hindi. Transfer negatif tersebut menunjukkan jenis interferensi fonologi, yaitu *Actual Phone Substitution*. Selain itu, beberapa proses fonologi juga terjadi dalam transfer negatif. Dua faktor penyebab interferensi fonologi yang berkontribusi terhadap transfer negatif pada fonem /t/ Bahasa Inggris yang direalisasikan oleh Dr. Zakir Naik adalah adanya perbedaan sistem fonemik dan perbedaan pelafalan pada fonem yang identik antara Bahasa Inggris dan Bahasa Hindi.

Kata Kunci: *Interferensi Bahasa, Sistem Fonologi Bahasa India, Proses Retrofleksi*

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of Study

English has been considered a lingua franca because it has been used globally in almost every corner of the world. Technically, English as a lingua franca has connected people around the world from east to west with the diversity of languages that even though their national language is not English (Anastassiou & Andreou, 2020, p. xi). English language provides global accessibility, and it makes the diversities and opportunities across the world attainable, particularly with the advanced development of technology in this age of globalization. In this case, according to Rao (2019, p. 66), many linguists and language researchers are motivated to name the English language as an international language, as a result of the use of the English has become widely used.

Nowadays, a significant number of non-native speakers of English are using English as a communication mode to run their international activities, such as tourism, travel, and even making friends. English language has been designated as a global means of communication among nations (Kokand, 2020, p. 5). In addition, it is studied worldwide as either a second language or a foreign language (Alfansyah et al. 2023, p. 485). Moreover, lots of international occupations like business, commerce, education, and even *da'wa* also require English language proficiency to convey their purpose and to minimize the potential of misinterpretation so they can build effective communication with the recipient. But to a certain extent, English pronunciation from non-native speakers often sounds inappropriate with the standard English pronunciation, where their mother tongue

accent interferes with the English pronunciation. The diversity of English pronunciation is one of the characteristics of the English language that may affect the intelligibility of the speaker in pronunciation due to the different pronunciations of each individual speaker of English (Kirkpatrick, 2010, p. 13). This case sometimes challenges people to make a comprehension of it.

One with the standardized pronunciation of English would be more comprehensible than the inappropriate pronunciation (Senowarsito & Ardini, 2019, p. 74). Many people speak more than one language. This case could be caused by the use of language for lots of purposes, normally for international affairs or even in some countries with multicultural people. As a global language, English is considered the most widely used language in the world, with the number of speakers being almost 1,5 billion in 2023. It connects diversity across the world (Mustaqim, 2024, p. 1). This kind of diversity is frequently found in the use of English as a second language, where the speaker is used to speaking in the system of their mother tongue. Littlewood (1984, p. 21) states that one of the most significant factors influencing language learners in the process of acquiring a second language (L2) is the mother tongue or first language (L1). According to Iman (2020, p. 171) and Andika et al. (2018, p. 146), the term “second language” refers to any language that is acquired after one’s native language or mother tongue, which could be the third or fourth language.

In the acquisition of a second language, there is, of course, the influence of the mother tongue’s pattern, which can be in the form of structural, lexical, or even phonological systems. The influence of mother tongue production in the use of a second language is a linguistic phenomenon that is referred to as interference.

Within the domain of linguistics, there are various kinds of linguistic interference, i.e., syntactic interference, morphological interference, and phonological interference (Baghirova, 2021, p. 176). Gass & Selinker (1983, p. 11) state that linguistic interference frequently refers to language transfer. As a form of influence from the mother tongue, one often transfers their first language (L1) system of phonology to their second language (L2). Phonological interference is inseparable from several factors that often become aspects of first-language transfer in the second language. Those are the influence of the L1 phonological system on the phonological system of the L2 and the speakers who try to simplify the pronunciation (Mubarok & Nur'aisyah, 2020, p. 23).

From a negative perspective, language transfer can be an obstacle that implicates some errors in language patterns, while the positive is that language transfer can be a facilitation for language learning (Nasaruddin, 2017, p. 206). The negative impact of a language transfer is interesting to observe. Among the obstacles that result in the negative impact of a language transfer is the distinction of systems in two different languages, such as the phonological system in the English language and the Hindi language. In the urbanization of Hindi, more people are using English. This language is becoming important for many different reasons compared to before (Sahgal, 1991, p. 299). The two different systems of English and Hindi have a strong influence on the pronunciation caused by the different points of articulation. The inequality of articulation of English and Hindi is caused by the different number of alphabets and scripts. There are a total of 21 consonants and five vowels in English, while in Hindi, it's composed of 33 consonants and 12 vowels used for speaking and writing (Medhavi et al. 2019, p.

7). The significant distinction between the English alphabet and the Hindi script gives implications to the phonological system gaps where some sounds of English are missing in Hindi, and vice versa.

The focus of this research is a phenomenon of phonological interference in a video on a YouTube channel by an Indian Islamic public lecturer, Dr. Zakir Naik. As an international *da'i*, Dr. Zakir Naik frequently preaches in English so his *da'wa* can be easily comprehensible by audiences from all over the world. However, due to his mother tongue being Hindi, most of his English utterances are often influenced by the phonological characteristics of Hindi. In this case, the researcher will analyze how the phonological system of Hindi interferes with the English pronunciation in Dr. Zakir Naik's speech, especially in the English phoneme /t/. In this case, the phoneme /t/ illustrates the most frequent error between the English phoneme /t/, /r/, /v/, and /w/ identified in the video, indicating that it is particularly susceptible to interference.

The researcher has chosen the four phonemes /r/, /t/, /v/, and /w/ to be selected as those phonemes are the most highlighted errors in pronunciation by Dr. Zakir Naik, who is a Hindi speaker. With the realization of phoneme /r/ 82 times, phoneme /t/ 167 times, phoneme /v/ 47 times, and phoneme /w/ 24 times. Furthermore, the previous research conducted by Sailaja (2009), Grolman et al. (2021), Syah et al. (2023), Mishra & Mishra (2016), and Masoko (2016) point out that the four phonemes, especially the phoneme /t/, are among the most interfered English phonemes in pronunciation by Hindi speakers. This research provides a foundation for further studies on second language acquisition, especially regarding Hindi and English. Furthermore, the phenomenon of phonological interference

with the English phoneme /t/ occurs predominantly among Indian speakers due to a mismatch between the phonological systems of Hindi and English.

1.2 Research Question

Based on the background of the study, the researcher formulated the research questions below:

1. How is the English consonant /t/ realized by Dr. Zakir Naik?
2. How does the Hindi phonological system, especially in the phoneme /t/, interfere with Dr. Zakir Naik's English pronunciation?
3. What factors contribute to the phonological interference in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization?

1.3 Objective of Study

Following the background of the study and the research question above, this research aims to analyze how the realization of the English consonant phoneme /t/ is in Dr. Zakir Naik's video. Also, this research studies how the phonological system of Hindi interferes with the pronunciation of the English consonant phoneme /t/ in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization. Furthermore, this study seeks to find out and elaborate on the factors that contribute to the phonological interference in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization by examining the difference between Hindi and English phonological systems, especially in the English phoneme /t/.

1.4 Scope of Study

This research focuses on the phonological interference of Hindi in the pronunciation of the English phoneme /t/ in Dr. Zakir Naik's video as he gives the Islamic lecture. To identify the phonological interference that happens in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization, the researcher applies Weinreich (1968) theory regarding the

explanation and the types of phonological interference. By observing the distinctions between the Hindi and English phonological systems, the researcher intends to find out and elaborate on the factors that cause the phonological interference in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization of the English phoneme /t/.

1.5 Significance of Study

Referring to the study of phonological problems, this research necessarily contributes to a deeper understanding of the phonological interference field. Thus, this research has two significant aspects of study in theoretical and practical. Theoretically, this research can be an additional insight and broader knowledge related to phonological interference analysis, especially in the English phoneme /t/. By applying Weinreich's (1968) theory, which mentions the explanation and the types of phonological interference, this research observes the processes of the phonological interference phenomenon by providing a discussion related to the English consonant phoneme /t/ pronunciation, which is impacted by the Hindi phonological system.

Practically, this research assists in strengthening the information about phonological interference and the exploration of the English and Hindi phonological systems, as well as the difference between them. Thus, this research helps future linguistic researchers as a reference. Furthermore, in the domain of language teaching and learning, this study gives an implication by figuring out the common areas of difficulty to avoid the loss of pronunciation accuracy in second-language acquisition. Therefore, this research can hopefully be beneficial to the whole language society.

1.6 Literature Review

The previous research related to the current study was conducted by Syah et al. (2023). The previous research analyses the phonological interference phenomenon by Indian BIPA learners. The previous researchers examined the Indonesian phonological interference that occurs when Indian BIPA learners practice the Indonesian language in the video of BIPA online distance. In the video, the students are trying to speak Indonesian, where the phonological system was interrupted by the phonological system of Hindi. The findings and discussion indicate that sound addition, sound subtraction, and sound changes happen in the phonological interference by Indian BIPA learners. Within these three categories, words containing interferences are classified more narrowly into initial, middle, and end sounds. As the related paper to this current study, the same method was used by the previous researchers. The previous study applies the descriptive qualitative approach, where the listening and recording techniques are used to gain the data. Another similarity found in the previous research by Syah et al. (2023) is the phenomenon of interference that occurs in the large number of vowels and consonants of Hindi on the Indonesian realization by the BIPA students. Meanwhile, this study focuses on the English consonant phoneme /t/ in Dr. Zakir Naik's speech, which is interfered by Hindi as his first language.

An undergraduate thesis conducted by Hidayati (2022) also focuses on the study of phonological interference. She observed the types of phonological interference and the factors causing the phenomenon in MoFA's press conference video entitled "Media Briefing of COVID-19 Vaccine Development in Indonesia." In contrast with the current research, which focused on the English phonological

interference by Hindi, the study written by Hidayati (2022) focuses on the English phonological interference by Indonesian. While the current research focuses on the English consonant phoneme /t/ and classifies the data into initial, middle, and final, the previous research narrows down the data based on the types and factors of phonological interference. Equivalent to the current research, the previous research employs a qualitative descriptive method, in addition to the differentiation, the previous research uses a content analysis approach to conduct the study. Also, the researcher of the previous study applies Weinreich's (1968) theory about how sounds from one language can affect another language, and discusses the types and factors of the phonological interference.

The next relevant research was written by Rachmawati et al. (2023). In their study, they analyze the phonological interference of Javanese by Japanese speakers who are learning to pronounce Javanese words. The data was obtained from several YouTube videos by different channels where the videos contain language-learning content. The findings and discussion found that the phonological interference was categorized into four classifications, i.e., phonological interference in the vowel phoneme, phonological interference in the consonant phoneme, phonological interference in the syllable, and phonological interference in the form of random error. Which then, those four classifications are leading to the phonological strategies used by the Japanese speakers in pronouncing the Javanese words, i.e., assimilation, nasalization, phoneme deletion, aspiration, phoneme addition, glottalization, labialization, vowel harmonization, and retroflexion. The qualitative descriptive method was used in the previous research to figure out the answer to the problem statement by analysing the contents. The data coding

technique was also used to simplify the data and make it denser. The similarity of the previous research by Rachmawati et al. (2023) to this current research is the qualitative descriptive approach without the data coding technique. Also, the research by Rachmawati et al. (2023) is generally studying the phonological interference in the vowel phoneme, the consonant phoneme, the syllable, and in the form of random error. Meanwhile, this study focuses on Dr. Zakir Naik's realization of the consonant phoneme /t/.

Another previous study supporting this current research was conducted by Fitria & Al Farisi (2023). Focusing on the field of phonological interference, Fitria & Al Farisi (2023) study the pronunciation of the Arabic phoneme /q/ by Sundanese and Javanese Speakers. Not so in line with this current research, the phonological interference observed by Fitria & Al Farisi (2023) was carried out using a comparative descriptive qualitative method, i.e., by listening, taking notes, and documenting the recordings of the male Sundanese and Javanese students reading the Quran. In this case, the previous researchers utilized a software named Praat to process the data by measuring the accuracy of the male Sundanese and Javanese students' realization. The data were then compared to the native Arabian record to identify and discover the pattern of interference occurring in the Sundanese and Javanese students' pronunciation. In addition to the phonological interference, the similarity applied in this current research is that both studies use descriptive qualitative methods to elaborate the data, yet the current research uses theory to describe and discuss the findings. Both studies also focus on a phoneme that is excluded in the phonological pattern of the first language, i.e., the phoneme /q/, which only exists in Arabic, and the phoneme /t/, which is not articulated in Hindi.

1.7 Theoretical Approach

This observation objectively analyzes the phonological interference by employing Weinreich's (1968) interference theory. As Weinreich (1968, p. 14) stated, interference refers to when bilingual speakers are influenced by their mother tongue in the process of acquiring a second language. The second language is not literally pointed to the second language of One's languages, the term of the second language could be the third or fourth language of somebody. Thus, the interference takes place in the mixing system of the mother tongue with the second language. Weinreich (1968) phonological interference theory defines interference as the occurrence of the L1's language system in the L2's where the L2 learner is trying to figure out the alternative to facilitate the ease of using the second language. This case is undoubtedly triggering several errors in the system of the second language that could be grammatically, morphologically, and even phonologically.

Weinreich (1968, p. 18) emphasizes distinguishing the terms of phonological interference in types, i.e., under-differentiation, over-differentiation, reinterpretation of distinction, and actual phone substitution. Using the interference theory stated by Weinreich (1968), the researcher will analyze the English consonant phoneme /t/ that is impacted by the Hindi phonological system in Dr. Zakir Naik's pronunciation, as English is his second language and Hindi is his first language. In this matter, the case will be synchronized with the phonological interference theory as Weinreich (1968) mentioned, how the first language interferes with the second language and how the interference processes. According to Ellis (1997, p. 302), with the mixing of L1 and L2 systems, phonological interference happens because the speaker is used to speaking with his mother

tongue's phonological system and tries to figure out the alternative in pronouncing the L2. For this reason, this study requires the role of contrastive analysis by observing the difference between the English and Hindi phonological systems to find the differences and difficulties experienced by the speaker.

In addition to the theory of phonological interference, this research applies the term of language transfer to categorize Dr. Zakir Naik's realization of the English consonant phoneme /t/. According to this framework, Dulay et al. (1982, p. 100) described language transfer as the automatic process and subconscious application of the primary language learned behaviours when attempting to produce a new language response. Language transfer can be categorized into two types, i.e., negative transfer, which interferes with the second language learning, and positive transfer, which facilitates learning (Dulay et al. 1982, pp. 100–101). In this study, the researcher uses the term negative transfer to refer the realizations that experience phonological interference. Furthermore, the researcher employs the term positive transfer to denote the correct pronunciation and to observe how language transfer occurs in this study.

In the process of phonological interference and language transfer, several phonological processes intervene in the sound alterations. Basically, the purpose of the phonological process is to facilitate language speakers to articulate complex words by simplifying their pronunciation. The researcher features several statements regarding the phonological process to find out the structure and functions of the phonological pattern realized by Dr. Zakir Naik. The contrastive phonological pattern between two languages leads to unstandardized pronunciation of the second language. Weinreich (1968, p. 64) draws the factors underlying the

occurrence of phonological interference. The four factors are: the absence of corresponding distinction in primary language, presence of distinction (only) in primary language, different phonemic system, and different pronunciation of equivalent phonemes. The factors indicate that phonological interference predominantly occurs because of the distinctions in the phonological system between two or more languages. Thus, the factors assist the researcher in conducting this study, especially in how phonological interference can be systematically analysed.

1.8 Method of Research

The research method includes various elements such as types of research, data sources, data collection techniques, and data analysis techniques. This subsection provides an explanation of the research methodology used to investigate the phenomenon of phonological interference in Dr. Zakir Naik's speech video.

1.8.1 Types of Research

As the study aimed to uncover the English phonological interference phenomenon by a Hindi speaker, this kind of case study was conducted using the qualitative research method. The qualitative research approach is an analysis method for understanding the social or human phenomenon regarding individuals or groups (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 295). This approach was selected as the case happened on Dr. Zakir Naik's English pronunciation while he gives a speech on an Islamic lecture.

1.8.2 Data Source

Dr. Zakir Naik is known as an Indian international Islamic public lecturer who often shares his Islamic knowledge abroad. The data of the observation is

taken from one of Dr. Zakir Naik's videos on his YouTube channel, namely Dr. Zakir Naik (<https://youtu.be/1PSDZMY5I1s?si=qLNe8mbbCzmmHITL>). The selected video entitled *Whoever Works for Allah, Allah Protects and Honours Them* was uploaded in Dr. Zakir Naik's YouTube channel on January 28, 2024. With a duration of 13 minutes of speech, the video provides sufficient data that shows the speech consistency of Dr. Zakir Naik. Besides, the content in the video qualifies the criteria of the desired issue to be observed by the researcher.

1.8.3 Data Collection Technique

In conducting this research, the researcher applies the qualitative observation technique to collect the data. The qualitative observation technique involves field notes on the individual of the research material in relation to its behaviors and activities (Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 295). According to Bogdan & Biklen (2007, p. 119), the qualitative observation technique runs an observational protocol during the observation for recording information, i.e., a note that reports the researcher's perspective and personal thoughts. Therefore, in qualitative research, the researcher roles a primary instrument for the data collection, which it's essential for the researcher to have a clear understanding of the study (Bogdan & Biklen, 2007, p. 77; Creswell & Creswell, 2018, p. 299). Thus, the researcher works inductively, collecting the data by listening to the video of Dr. Zakir Naik. Furthermore, to ensure the accuracy of phonological interference in Dr. Zakir Naik's speech patterns, the researcher records the video by taking field notes of what the researcher hears, observes, experiences, and contemplates to gain definitive analysis results (Bogdan & Biklen, 2007, p. 119). The material that needs to be observed is the unstandardized Received Pronunciation (RP) by Dr. Zakir

Naik in a YouTube video on (<https://youtu.be/1PSDZMY5I1s?si=qLNe8mbbCzmmHITL>). The speech of the video then be transcribed into a text form. The identification involved note-taking on words that were pronounced inappropriately to the Received Pronunciation (RP) standard.

In organizing the data, the researcher did a transcription of Dr. Zakir Naik's speech in the video to find the differences between his realization and the RP standard. The researcher has discovered the four phonemes /r/, /t/, /v/, and /w/ as the most common pronunciation errors realized by Dr. Zakir Naik. The phoneme /r/ was noted 82 times, phoneme /t/ was noted 167 times, phoneme /v/ was recorded 47 times, and phoneme /w/ appeared 24 times. The whole collected data was reduced into only one phoneme by selecting the most frequent phoneme that occurred in the interference, i.e., phoneme /t/. The selected words containing the phoneme /t/ are then transcribed into the phonetic alphabet, aligned with the standard of the RP phonetic transcription using the IPA (International Phonetic Alphabet) translator, namely tophonetics.com. To strengthen the validity of the data, the researcher listens to the video and focuses on the selected words containing phonological interference, then compares them to the RP standard. In line with the qualitative data analysis process, the researcher reviews the collected data multiple times to obtain a deeper understanding (Creswell, 2012, p. 238).

1.8.4 Data Analysis Technique

The researcher continues the research using the qualitative process for analyzing the data. According to Creswell (2012, p. 237), there are several steps in conducting the qualitative data analysis technique, i.e. the researcher organizes and

prepares the collected data in filed notes, the researcher reduces the data into several themes by sorting the data that provide relevant evidence, and lastly, the researcher displays the findings in the form of detailed explanation relating to the research question.

To discuss the findings, the researcher applies: Weinreich (1968) phonological interference theory to discover the types of interference, Dulay et al. (1982) language transfer theory to categorize the negative and positive transfer, and the factors of phonological interference, as conducted by Weinreich (1968). And to display the analysis, the researcher classifies the data in accordance with the interference in the initial sound, middle sound, and final sound. Furthermore, the researcher uses several references relating to the comparative phonological study of Hindi and English to analyze how the phonological system of Hindi interferes with the phonological system of English in Dr. Zakir Naik's articulation, as well as the statements regarding the phonological process in the realization of Dr. Zakir Naik.

1.9 Paper Organization

The researcher organizes this paper into four chapters. The first chapter consists of the introduction, which are the background of the study, research questions, objectives of the study, the scope of the study, significances of the study, the literature review, the theoretical approach, methods of the study, and the paper organization. The next chapter elaborates on the key terms and the theoretical framework of how the theories mentioned in the method are employed in this research. The third chapter presents the findings and discussion observed by the researcher. The last chapter points to concludes the whole study.

CHAPTER IV

CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

4.1 Conclusion

The research examines the phonological interference of Hindi in the pronunciation of the English consonant phoneme /t/, using data from Dr. Zakir Naik's speech video. Based on the analysis and discussion, the researcher draws the conclusion based on the three research questions.

The phonological interference found in this research occurs due to the distinctions of the phonological system between English and Hindi. Both English and Hindi share an identical segment with different pronunciations, namely consonant /t/. Where identical sounds exist between two languages, language transfer is likely to occur, it could be a positive transfer or a negative transfer. In this study, both positive and negative transfers or interference happen in Dr. Zakir Naik's speech. The positive transfer tends to occur in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization of the English consonant phoneme /t/ if it precedes or follows other consonants, especially if it meets the consonant with a similar articulatory position. Meanwhile, the negative transfer or phonological interference frequently happens when the consonant phoneme /t/ is positioned next to a vowel. In the phonological interference case, Dr. Zakir Naik pronounced the English consonant phoneme /t/ alveolar as /ɖ/ retroflex.

The sound substitution of the English consonant phoneme /t/ alveolar into /ɖ/ retroflex by Dr. Zakir Naik is caused by the absence of the consonant phoneme /t/ alveolar in the Hindi phonological system. In English, the articulatory position of the phoneme /t/ is at the alveolar ridge with a plosive manner of articulation.

Meanwhile, the phoneme /t/ is articulated plosively, too, but positioned in the alveopalatal area. Those two identical segments with different pronunciation shared by English and Hindi are causing a phonological interference, namely, actual phone substitution. In this case, actual phone substitution occurs due to the nonexistence of the phoneme /t/ alveolar in the Hindi phonological pattern. As Hindi is Dr. Zakir Naik's first language, he simplifies the English speech pronunciation by substituting the identical sounds with the closest Hindi phonological pattern. Thus, the Hindi phonological system as a first language interferes with the English pronunciation as a second language.

In addition to the Actual Phone Substitution type of phonological interference, the negative transfer occurs in the English consonant phoneme /t/ also undergoes phonological processes. Two realizations of the English consonant phoneme /t/ in the middle and several pronunciations in the final are elided by Dr. Zakir Naik. The sound elision both in the middle and final is known as the process of consonant clusters simplification, since Hindi speakers find consonant clusters difficult to pronounce.

Two factors stated by Weinreich (1968) are contributing to the phonological interference of the English consonant phoneme /t/ in Dr. Zakir Naik's realization, those are: the different phonemic systems and different pronunciations of equivalent phonemes between English and Hindi. The different articulatory positions of the consonant phonemes /t/ and /t/ represent the difference in the characterization of English and Hindi phonemic patterns, resulting in an interference of the first language with the second language's phonological system. This is an unavoidable obstacle in the acquisition of a second language. The different phonemic systems

can be narrowed down to the different pronunciations of equivalent phonemes, where English and Hindi share the same consonant /t/ but differ in terms of place of articulation, resulting in a different pronunciation. The different pronunciations of equivalent phonemes produce an unstandardized pronunciation of the second language due to the speaker's adaptation from its first language.

4.2 Suggestion

Many of researches related to linguistic fields is conducted to uncover aspects of language. By examining this study, the researcher hopes that the reader will gain a broader understanding and perspective on phonological interference, particularly between the English and Hindi phonological systems. Building on the limitation of this research in the phonological interference of English consonant phoneme /t/ by Hindi, this observation can be developed into a broader linguistic study. With substantial branches of study in the linguistic field, the next research could be conducted in a study related to morphological, syntactic, grammatical, and other analyses. Focusing on phonological interference, the upcoming research may analyze other languages with more distinctive phonological patterns, a greater variety of phonemes, or languages that exhibit fewer frequent errors. Furthermore, the next observation may apply other interference theories, such as Ellis' (1997), which employs the speaker's background of second language competencies level to build up the observation. Considering this research applies the theory of phonological systems comparison to find out the matters. After all, this research is expected to be able to facilitate the next linguistic learners in enhancing their study, especially in the phonological interference field.

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