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Solidarity and Politeness in Gorontalo: A Study on the Specific Address Forms in Gorontalo Language

This study discusses Solidarity and Politeness in the address terms in Gorontalo language. This study focuses on the uniqueness of address terms in Gorontalo language, among which are address terms related to skin color and body shapes which, in some other cultures, are considered inappropriate or disrespectful to the addressees. In Gorontalo, some address terms are used to show solidarity and politeness among people of Gorontalo, but the use will be adjusted to the rules applicable in Gorontalo cultural communities. It is also the focus of this study. This study used a qualitative approach. Data were collected through interviews, observations, and document analysis. Results indicated that there are more than twenty kinds of address terms in Gorontalo language, but this study only deal with eight terms considered to have more unique features than the other address terms. The eight address terms are those of skin color, body shape and size, children, aliases, birth order, family relationships, and terms borrowed from other languages.