

## **Language Kindship of Jamee, Gayo, and Malay**

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### **Abstract**

*This paper was the result of research on Comparative Historical Linguistics which used qualitative methods and quantitative methods with lexicostatistics techniques. Then the face-to-face technique, note-taking technique and recording technique were carried out. The aim of this paper was to look for the relationship between the Jamee language and the Gayo language, the relationship between the Jamee language and the Malay language, and the relationship between the Gayo language and the Malay language. As well as proving the percentage of relationship between the three languages. The Jamee language research was carried out in South Aceh, the Gayo language research was carried out in Central Aceh, and the Malay language research was carried out in Langkat Regency. The data used is 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies. Research results: 1) related words found between the Gayo language and the Jamee language are 39 basic vocabularies, the descriptions are 10 pairs of identical words, 11 pairs of words that were phonetically similar, and 18 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. The level of relationship between the Gayo language and the Malay language was 19.5%, 2) related words found between the Gayo language and the Malay language 69 basic vocabulary, the description is 35 pairs of identical words, 14 pairs of words that are phonetically similar, and 23 pairs of words with one phoneme classification different, the level of relationship between the Gayo language and the Malay language was 36%, 3) related words found between the Jamee language and the Malay language 104 basic vocabulary, the description was 58 pairs of identical words, 13 pairs of words that are phonetically similar and 33 pairs of words with one phoneme classification different. The level of relationship between the Jamee language and the Malay language was 36%. The conclusion was that the Jamee language, Gayo language and Malay language are related languages, including the language family category.*

**Keywords:** *Language kinship, Lexicostatistics, Jamee language, Gayo language, Malay language.*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

The Republic of Indonesia consists of various regional languages. According to Ethnologue, Indonesia has 715 regional languages and is the second largest country after Papua New Guinea with 840 regional languages. Meanwhile, according to the Language and Language Map in Indonesia page on the official website of the Language Development and Development Agency, the number of regional languages (excluding

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dialects and subdialects) in Indonesia that have been identified and validated is 718 languages. These include Jamee language, Gayo language and Malay language.

In an effort to preserve regional languages, apart from the government, I as a researcher and lecturer feel responsible for protecting regional languages in the Republic of Indonesia in general. And especially protecting the regional languages of Jamee, Gayo and Malay. It is hoped that the long-term aim of this paper will be useful for the development of linguistic theory itself which can be used in teaching courses in the field of Comparative Historical Linguistics in Higher Education.

The languages that live today did not just appear by chance. Before arriving at their current form, these languages certainly experienced a long historical journey after separating from their ancient languages or protolanguages. Proto Austronesian (PAN) as the origin (parent) language of languages in the Southeast Asia-Pacific region inherits, and within it changes occur in its derivative languages (Dardanila, 2016: 1), including Jamee, Gayo and Malay. Langacker (1972: 331, in Dardanila, 2016: 23) says that lexical units in related languages are said to be related (cognates) if they are derived from the same lexical elements in Protolanguage. Language and culture have certain principles towards linguistic universality. This determines the concept of language in other aspects of human behavior. The term kinship is related to the semantic area of the language concept of linguistic behavior (Adithi, 2019). Kridalaksana (2008:116) explains that genetic relationship is a relationship between two or more languages that are derived from the same parent language source, which is called an ancient language (proto-Austronesian). Broadly speaking, kinship is a bond or relationship between two or more languages that are derived from the same source by looking at the similarities found in certain languages.

Language changes and develops over time. Keraf (1991:34) states that language changes and develops in direct proportion to its speakers and is influenced by migration movements to spread the parent language. Languages that originate from one parent's language (cognitive) have a kinship relationship in the past. This is shown by the similarity of form and meaning which is a reflection of the history of the same heritage.

Jamee is a language belonging to the Austronesian family which is still used daily by speakers of the Aneuk Jamee tribe who live in Gampong Padang, Tapak Tuan District, South Aceh Regency, Republic of Indonesia. Gayo is a language from the Austronesian family spoken by the Gayo tribe who live in Kayu Kul Village, Pegasing District, Central Aceh Regency in the Republic of Indonesia. Malay is a West Austronesian language spoken mostly by speakers in Secanggang village, Secanggang District, Regency. Langkat, North Sumatra in the Republic of Indonesia.

The diversity of languages used by the people of Aceh include Acehnese, Singkil, Jame, Gayo, Kluet, Temiang, Devayan, Sigulai, and Lekon, Alas, Pak-Pak, Haloban (Tihabsah, 2022).

Jamee language and Gayo language are languages used by people in Aceh, their relationship with Malay is a cognate language used in Sumatra.

Jamee language, Gayo language, and Malay language are allied languages. It is important to examine the existence of the relationship between these three languages, even though different areas of language use are hypothesized to have language relationships.

This article is about the relationship between the Jamee language, the Gayo language and the Malay language. This is very important to write to prove the level of close relationship between the Jamee language, the Gayo language and the Malay language to trace the original relationship between the three languages and see the percentage of related words for the three languages.

The Relationship between the Karo, Minang and Malay Languages: A Comparative Historical Linguistic Study by Ernawari Br Surbakti (2014) in the Journal of *Metamorfosa* said that the Relationship between the Malay Language from the results of lexicostatistical calculations at the lexicon level shows that, (1) Karo and Minang are different languages. because they are in the family group (stok) (31%), (2) Karo language and Malay are also different languages because they are in the family group (stok) (26%), and (3) Minang language and Malay are languages those in the same family (66%). However, in the data analysis, Ernawati Surbakti did not include data on all the analysis of the word relatives but only took the numbers into account.

Based on the gaps in the writing above, it is important to write about the problem of the relationship between the Jamee language, the Gayo language and the Malay language to see the relationship between the three languages accompanied by accurate data found in the field.

## **2. LITERATURE REVIEW**

### **1. Language Kinship**

In accordance with the problem of this research, the study was carried out based on theory in Comparative Historical Linguistics. Theoretically, related languages have the same characteristics of form and meaning in the form of a cognate set. This set of related words is hypothesized to originate from the same protolanguage and is also hypothesized to be the forerunner of these languages. The similarities and similarities in form and meaning are not due to borrowing or coincidence, but rather because they continue the same original characteristics (protolanguage). Apart from that, the set of relative words also contains regular sound matches in each position. Neogrammarians call this order the Law of Sound. The famous laws of sound are Grimm's law and Verner's law. Grimm's law is the law of sound equivalence of Indo-European languages, while Verner's law is the law of sound equivalence of Indo-German languages (Bynon, 1979; Jeffers and Lehiste, 1979; Hock, 1988).

In analyzing the relationship data for the three languages studied, the ability to master phonology in terms of language sounds is required. According to Chaer (2009: 5 in the article *Minangkabau language phonology in Kenagarian Padang Laweh, Sijunjung Regency* by Ella Sumidita, Ermanto, Ngusman 2013) phonology is the sound of language as the smallest unit of speech along with the "combination" between sounds that form syllables or syllables and also with elements -suprasegmental elements, such as stress, pitch, stop and duration.

Abdullah et al. (in Ramli, 2019:2), states that Jamee is the language used in three districts, namely South Aceh Regency or in the west of Aceh Province, West Aceh Regency or the West Coast region, and Singkil Regency or in the south directly bordering the Province North Sumatra. One of the areas where the Jamee language is spread is in South Aceh Regency. The Jamee language has significant differences from the Bukittinggi Minangkabau language, both in terms of phonology, lexical, morphology and sentence structure (Ramli, 2019:2).

Gayo language is a language communication tool used by the Gayo tribe to convey information to fellow Gayo people. Gayo is one of the indigenous ethnic groups that inhabits the Gayo highlands, Central Aceh Regency (Dardanila, 2022).

Malay is the language used by speakers in Malaysia and some areas in Indonesia. However, in this paper Malay is used by speakers in the Langkat area.

## 2. Relationship between the language studied and previous research

As for previous research that helped in developing this research as a reference or literature review, namely Dwi Widayati (2018) entitled "The Kinship Relationship between the Nias Language and the Sigulai Language" which also analyzed the Nias language as an object of study using 200 basic Swadesh vocabulary and compared with the Sigulai language through comparison of identical pairs, different vowels, different consonants, one syllable different, one vowel different, and one consonant different.

Furthermore, Fatinah's article (2017) in the title "Relationship between the Kulawi Language and the Kaili Language in Central Sulawesi" aims to describe the percentage of the relationship between the Kaili language and the Kulawi language using quantitative and qualitative approaches. The data instruments in this research were obtained using questionnaire and interview techniques in the form of a questionnaire containing a list of 200 Swadesh vocabulary words and 873 cultural vocabulary questions. In his research, he used comparative methods through lexicostatistics and reconstruction techniques. This research shows that quantitatively the Kaili language and the Kulawi language have a kinship relationship at the family level with a percentage of relatives of 62%. It can be proven that the Kaili language and the Kulawi language come from the same family. This is also proven by qualitative data that found a number of sound correspondence devices between the two languages. In this case, this research makes a contribution of sound correspondence in determining relative words.

Next is Juliana's (2013) article entitled "The Level of Kinship of Mandailing Languages, Javanese Languages, and Acehnese Languages" which concludes that the level of BM and BJ kinship is 32.5% and are in the same family or stock; the level of relationship between BJ and BA is 25.5% and are in the same family or stock; and the level of kinship between BA and BM is 36% and they are in the same family.

## 3. RESEARCH METHODS

This research was carried out by applying an inductive thinking stage design, namely a number of linguistic phenomena obtained in the field were analyzed using appropriate theories and methods according to the objectives to be achieved in this research. In this research, qualitative and quantitative approaches were applied. The qualitative approach is concerned with the dynamic dimension or dimensions of language innovation over time. This mutually exclusive change that found innovative lingual devices means that each derivative language that is closely related is assumed to have innovative characteristics that are also inherited, and do not exist in other related languages or language groups. A quantitative approach based on retention together takes the form of percentage numbers of similarities and similarity of the basic words of the Swadesh List which are basic vocabulary that can be applied and researched in various regional languages in Indonesia such as Jamee, Gayo and Malay.

The data collection procedure was carried out using 200 basic Swadesh vocabulary. Carried out in three different places, namely the Jamee language, which is one of the languages belonging to the Austronesian family which is still used daily by speakers of the Aneuk Jamee tribe who live in Gampong Padang, Tapak Tuan District, South Aceh Regency, Republic of Indonesia. The Gayo language is a language from the Austronesian family spoken by the Gayo tribe living in Kayu Kul Village, Pegasing District, Central Aceh Regency in the Republic of Indonesia. Malay is a group of West Austronesian languages spoken mostly by speakers in the village of Secanggih, Secanggih District, Langkat Regency, North Sumatra in the Republic of Indonesia. In each language three informants were assigned. The conditions for determining informants:

1. Male or female;
2. Aged between 25-65 years (not senile);
3. The informant's parents, wife or husband were born and raised in the village and rarely or never leave the village;
4. Have a maximum education of completing basic education (SD-SLTP);
5. Having middle social status (not low or not high) with the hope of not having too high mobility;
6. Occupation is farmer or laborer;
7. Have pride in his isolect;
8. Can understand Indonesian;
9. Physically and spiritually healthy. (Mahsun, 2005:135)

The data collection technique used was note-taking technique (Sudaryanto, 1993:13-16; Kesuma, 2007:48; Sudaryanto, 1988:5; Djajasudarma, 2006). Data analysis was carried out using comparative historical methods. Data collection steps are as follows:

1. The cognate set is compared by selecting related forms and ignoring unrelated forms, because unrelated forms, both in form and meaning, are assumed to come from different etymons. This means that the glosses that are not taken into account are loan words, invented words (not basic words).
2. Isolation of bound morphemes. The collected data must be identified first. If the data consists of created words which are the result of the formation of free and bound morphemes, the bound morphemes must be separated first from the base word. Only basic words can be compared. Write a set of adjustments to these relative words. Relative words are compared to find the correspondence, whether regular or irregular. The sound adjustments of the word devices being compared must be explained systematically.
3. Form groups of adjustments that have similarities in terms of phonology. These sound adjustment devices are arranged in correspondence devices that have similarities in their phonology.
4. See evidence of complementary and contradictory distributions between suspicious pairs in adjustment.

The determination of related words is (1) The pairs being compared are identical, (2) The pairs have phonemic correspondence, (3) The pairs have phonetic similarities, and (4) There is only one phoneme that is different.

#### **4. FINDINGS**

The research instrument used to collect data was taken from 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies. All the vocabulary was analyzed to determine the level of kinship and the percentage of related words between Jamee, Gayo and Malay. Basically, to know and calculate the level of relationship between the three languages, you have to count related vocabulary. To make it easier to find kinship relationships and the percentage of related words in the three languages.

Based on research conducted regarding the level of kinship of the Jamee language, Gayo language and Malay language, the results of this research can create a comprehensive picture of language kinship research between the three languages by using a comparison table which is used to indicate the similarity of markers between related vocabularies in these languages.

#### 4.1 Language Kinship of Gayo (BGa) with Jamee (BJam)

##### 4.1.1 Pairs of words related to BGa with BJam

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)
1.	anak/child	Anak	anak
2.	Basah/wet	Basah	basah
3.	Batang/bar	Bataŋ	bataŋ

##### 4.1.1.1 Identical word pairs of BGa with Bjam

In determining related words, one of the provisions and procedures that must be used in analyzing and classifying them is determining pairs of words as related words that have identical similarities. In this case, what is meant by identical is that pairs of words from the Gayo language and the Jamee language have exactly the same sound, form and meaning. The following is data on pairs of identical words, namely as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)
1	kayu/wood	kayu	Kayu
2	kutu/fleas	kutu	Kutu
3	minum/drink	minum	Minum

##### 4.1.1.2 Similar Phonetically Word Pairs of BGa with BJam

Basically, pairs of words are said to be phonetically similar because words belonging to this classification are characterized by similar phonetic symptoms so that they can be considered as allophone forms or units of sound that have variations but do not differ in meaning. Pairs of phonetically similar words are as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)
1	Jahat/bad	jahat	Jahek
2	Ketuk/knock	tetok	Tokok
3	Tulang/bone	tulen	Tulaŋ

##### 4.1.1.3 One Different Phoneme Word Pairs of BGa with BJam

If in a pair of words there is a difference in one phoneme, but it can be explained that the difference occurs due to the influence of the environment in which it enters, whereas in other languages the influence of the environment does not change the phoneme, then the pair can be designated as related words, as long as the segment is long enough (Keraf, 1984 : 129). In another sense, pairs of words with one different phoneme occur when there is a difference in one phoneme. The differences in one phoneme in question can be seen in the following table:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)
1	asap	Asap	asok
2	belah	Belah	balah
3	Beli	Beli	bali

## 4.1.2 Language Kinship of Gayo (BGa) with Malay (BMel)

## 4.1.2.1 Pairs of words related to BGa and BMel

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1.	ini/this	ini	ini
2.	jahat/bad	jahat	jahat
3.	kabut/smog	kabut	kabut

## 4.1.2.2 Identical Word Pairs of BGa with BMel

In determining related words, one of the provisions and procedures that must be used in analyzing and classifying them is determining pairs of words as related words that have identical similarities. In this case, what is meant by identical is that pairs of words from Gayo and Malay have exactly the same sound, form and meaning. The following is data on pairs of identical words, namely as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	tipis/thin	tipis	tipis
2	tua/old	tue	tue
3	uap/steam	uap	uap

## 4.1.2.3 Similar Phonetically Word Pairs of BGa with BMel

Basically, word pairs are said to be phonetically similar because words belonging to this classification are characterized by the similarity of phonetic symptoms in Gayo language and Malay language. so it can be considered as an allophone form or sound unit that has variations but does not differ in meaning. Pairs of phonetically similar words are as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	bintang/star	bintaŋ	bintaŋ
2	kabut/smog	kabut	kabut
3	kering/dry	keriŋ	keRiŋ

## 4.1.2.4 One Different Phoneme Word Pairs of BGa with BMel

If in a pair of words there is a difference in one phoneme, but it can be explained that the difference occurs due to the influence of the environment in which it enters, whereas in other languages the influence of the environment does not change the phoneme, then the pair can be designated as related words, as long as the segment is long enough. In another sense, pairs of words with one different phoneme occur when there is a difference in one phoneme. The differences in one phoneme in question can be seen in the following table:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Gayo (BGa)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	benar/true	betul	betol
2	hutan/forest	uten	utan
3	jalan/road	ralan	jalan

- The relationship between the Jamee language (BJam) and the Malay language (BMel)
- Related word pairs BJam with BMel

No.	Glos	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	buka/open	bukak	bukak
2	cium/kiss	cium	cium
3	mati/die	mati	mati

- Identical word pairs BJam with BMel

In determining related words, one of the provisions and procedures that must be used in analyzing and classifying them is determining pairs of words as related words that have identical similarities. In this case, what is meant by identical is that pairs of words from Jamee and Malay have exactly the same sound, form and meaning. The following is data on pairs of identical words, namely as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	pendek/short	pendek	pendek
2	rumah/house	rumah	rumah
3	suami/husband	laki	laki

- Phonetically Similar Word Pairs BJam with BMel

Basically, pairs of words are said to be phonetically similar because words belonging to this classification are characterized by the similarity of phonetic symptoms in the Jamee language and Malay. Therefore, it can be considered as an allophone form or sound unit that has variations but does not differ in meaning. Pairs of phonetically similar words are as follows:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	tanam/plant	tanam	tanah
2	kaki/foot	kaki	kaki
3	lidah/tongue	lidah	lidah

- Word pairs with one phoneme are different from BJam to BMel

If in a pair of words there is a difference in one phoneme, but it can be explained that the difference occurs due to the influence of the environment in which it enters, whereas in other languages the influence of the environment does not change the phoneme, then the pair can be designated as related words, as long as the segment is long enough. In another sense, pairs of words with one different phoneme occur when there is a difference in one phoneme. The differences in one phoneme in question can be seen in the following table:

No.	Glos	Bahasa Jamee (BJam)	Bahasa Melayu (BMel)
1	ibu	umak	Emak
2	kapan/when	bilu	Bile
3	tiga/three	tigo	Tige



#### 4.2 PERCENTAGE OF RELATIONSHIP OF JAMEE LANGUAGE, GAYO LANGUAGE AND MALAY LANGUAGE

Language Level	Kinship Percentage
Bahasa (language)	100 – 81
Keluarga (family)	81 – 36
Rumpun (stock)	26 – 12
Mikrofilum	12 – 4
Mesofilum	4 – 1
Makrofilum	<1%

##### 4.2.1 Percentage of the relationship between the Jamee language and the Gayo language

Based on 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies based on the determination of related words that have been carried out, the result is that there are 10 pairs of identical words, 11 pairs of words that are phonetically similar and 18 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. Judging from the total, the related words found between Gayo and Jamee are 39 vocabulary words out of 200 Swadesh vocabularies.

After knowing the level and percentage of kinship between the Gayo language and the Jamee language, a quantitative approach is then used using basic techniques to calculate the percentage of language kinship, namely with the following formula:

Number of relative vocabulary

$$\text{Kinship percentage} = \frac{\text{number of basic vocabulary (200)}}{\text{Number of relative vocabulary}} \times 100\%$$

$$\frac{39}{200} \times 100\% =$$

$$= 0,195 \times 100\%$$

$$= 19,5 \%$$

Based on the formula for calculating the percentage of language kinship above, the level of kinship between Gayo language and Malay is 19.5% of 200 basic vocabularies. In this case, if we look at the classification of percentage of related words, the kinship relationship between Gayo language and Jamee language falls into the category: Family (stock).

##### 4.2.2 Percentage of the relationship between Gayo language and Malay language

Based on the 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies based on the determination of related words that have been carried out, the result is that there are 35 pairs of identical words, 14 pairs of words that are phonetically similar and 23 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. Judging from the total, the related words found between Gayo and Malay are 69 vocabulary words out of 200 Swadesh vocabularies.

After knowing the level and percentage of kinship between the Gayo language and Malay, a quantitative approach is then used using basic techniques to calculate the percentage of language kinship, namely with the following formula:

kinship percentage

$$\begin{aligned} \text{Kinship percentage} &= \frac{\text{number of basic vocabulary (200)}}{72} \times 100\% \\ &= \frac{72}{200} \times 100\% \\ &= 0,36 \times 100\% \\ &= 36\% \end{aligned}$$

Based on the formula for calculating the percentage of language kinship above, the level of kinship between the Gayo language and Malay is 36% of the 200 basic vocabularies. In this case, if we look at the classification of the percentage of related words, the kinship relationship between Gayo language and Malay language falls into the category: Family.

#### 4.2.3 Percentage of the relationship between Jamee language and Malay language

Based on 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies based on the determination of related words that have been carried out, the result is that there are 58 pairs of identical words, 13 pairs of words that are phonetically similar and 33 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. Judging from the total, the related words found between Jame' and Malay are 104 vocabulary words out of 200 Swadesh vocabularies.

After knowing the level and percentage of kinship between the Jamee language and Malay, a quantitative approach is then used using basic techniques to calculate the percentage of language kinship, namely with the following formula:

number of word relatives

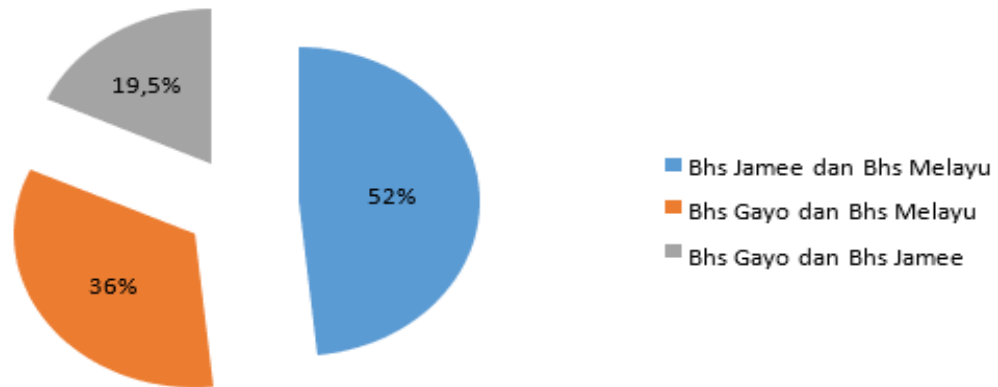
$$\begin{aligned} \text{Kinship percentage} &= \frac{\text{number of basic vocabulary (200)}}{104} \times 100\% \\ &= \frac{104}{200} \times 100 \\ &= 0,52 \times 100\% \\ &= 52\% \end{aligned}$$

Based on the formula for calculating the percentage of language kinship above, the level of kinship between Jamee and Malay is 36% of the 200 basic vocabularies. In this case, if we look at the classification of the percentage of related words, the kinship relationship between Jamee and Malay falls into the category: Family.

#### 4.3 Overall Percentage of the Relationship Circle Diagram of Jamee Language, Gayo Language and Malay Language

At the stage of determining the percentage of cognates between related languages being compared, it can be seen in the pie chart below:

### Diagram Lingkaran Kekerabatan BJam,BGa dan BMel



### 5. CONCLUSION

By using 200 basic Swadesh vocabulary as analysis material, the percentage of kinship between the Jamee language, Gayo language and Malay language was found.

Related words found between the Gayo language and the Jamee language are 39 basic vocabularies from 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies with descriptions of 10 pairs of identical words, 11 pairs of words that are phonetically similar, and 18 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. The level of relationship between the Gayo language and the Malay language is 19.5%, included in the category: Family (stock).

Related words found between the Gayo language and Malay are 69 basic vocabularies from 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies with descriptions of 35 pairs of identical words, 14 pairs of words that are phonetically similar, and 23 pairs of words with the classification of one phoneme which differs in the level of kinship between Gayo and Malay. Malays are 36% included in the categories: Family,

The related words found between the Jame' language and Malay are 104 basic vocabularies from 200 basic Swadesh vocabularies with descriptions of 58 pairs of identical words, 13 pairs of words that are phonetically similar and 33 pairs of words with a different phoneme classification. The level of kinship between the Jamee language and the Malay language is 36%, included in the category: Family.

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