1) Name changes due to A: Decolonization

More Indonesian examples

After independence Indonesia decided to spell the oo-sound or IPA (French: ou, Dutch oe, German: u) forthwith with u (1947). All manifest Dutch names had to be replaced by indigenous names, all Dutch generics had to be replaced by generics in the official Indonesian standard language, Bahasa Indonesia. After the 1974 spelling reform, in order to homogenize the Bahasa Malaysia spoken in Malaysia and Bahasa Indonesia, the following orthographic changes were made: tj>c, dj>j, j>y, ch>kh. There was a period therefore when the name of Indonesia's capital, Jakarta, was spelled Djakarta (1947-1974). It started as Yayakarta or Yacatra, was renamed Batavia by the Dutch 1619, named Jakatra by the Japanese in 1942, and Djakarta by the Indonesians at their independence (see figure 1).

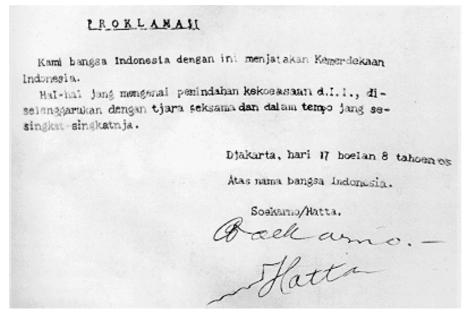


Figure 1: Proclamation of Independence of Indonesia, with the name of the capital as Djakarta.

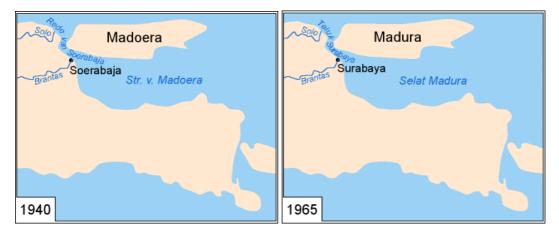


Figure 2: Example of change of Dutch generics into generics in Bahasa Indonesia (straat (=Strait)>Selat, Rede (=Roads)>Teluk), and substitution of Dutch rendering of u-sound (oe) into u, Dutch rendering of j-sound substituted by -y-.

An example of the language planning that went into the decolonisation of Indonesian placenames is the list of Dutch toponyms or toponyms with Dutch generics, that had to be changed (figure 3).

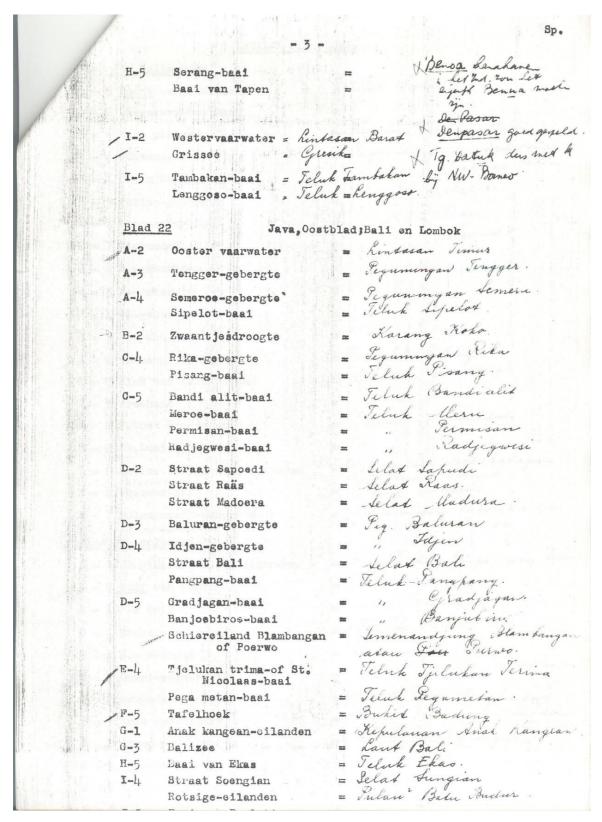


Figure 3: List of Dutch names or names with Dutch generics prepared by the Topographical Survey in Djakarta in 950, to be changed into Indonesian names.

The Dutch toponyms in Indonesia, did not quite change in the way the Dutch had envisaged. Before independence, native editions of school atlases existed, which rendered the capital as Betawi instead of Batavia, an adaptation of the name into Bahasa Indonesia; as most Dutch names already had an Indonesian version as well, Buitenzorg (the residence of the Governor-general) was already known by its Indonesian name Bogor at the time (see figures 4-6).

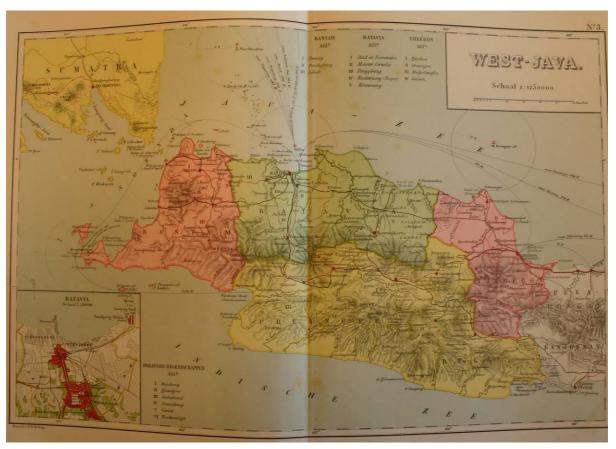


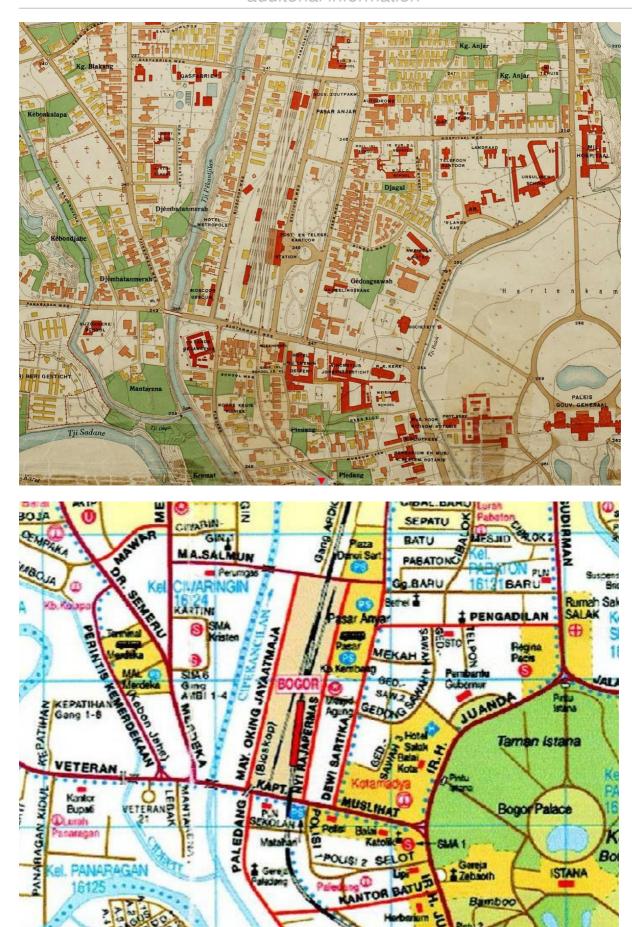
Figure 4: Dutch school atlas, 1935: Batavia, Buitenzorg/Bogor, Dutch generics.



Figure 5: Indonesian School atlas, 1935 (Betawi for Batavia, Bogor instead of Buitenzorg/Bogor), Indonesian generics.



Figure 6: Dutch school atlas 2010: Jakarta, Bogor, Indonesian generics) G=Gunung = mountain, Selat = Strait.



Figures 7 and 8: Changes in street names 1940-2010.