

## CHAPTER 1

### INTRODUCTION

There are six points in this chapter; background of the study, research questions, purposes of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, and definition of key terms.

#### 1.1 Background of the Study

Several experts are defining language. According to Rosadi & Hermanto (2018), language is an arbitrary symbol system used orally to communicate with others based on their culture. People use language when they do interact in society. People can state their minds, feelings, and opinions using language (Keraf, 1996, cited in Yanti et al., 2017). Besides, people can find or get information using language. Devianty (2017) defines language as the vocal symbols produced by human speech tools and used to communicate with other humans. Humans can produce language using their speech tools and use the language to interact with other humans. Similarly, Yanti et al., (2017) stated that language is an important thing that used by human to communicate with other. Therefore, language is an arbitrary vocal symbol produced by humans and plays an essential role in daily life because humans use language to communicate with other humans.

Language is related to other languages, for example, the languages in Bima regency, namely Sanggar, Kolo, Sambori, and Bima language. However, no one knows so far, or it can be said that the language groupings

are not yet clear. There must be the same word forms, similar word forms, and different word forms in language grouping. Usually, the similar forms are the unifying linguistics, and the different forms are the differentiating linguistics. That is a feature that every language is related to, even though the languages are different.

Languages of Sanggar, Kolo, Sambori, and Bima are the four languages still actively spoken in West Nusa Tenggara. Each has several speakers who are very fanatic about their language. They may conflict because they mock each other both how to pronounce words and convey terms in that language. In general, individual speakers are very proud of their language because it reflects their culture. Because language reflects the culture that the people can feel, they can see the culture from language (Jiang, 2000 cited in Rangriz & Harati, 2017). Therefore, to avoid the conflict between the native speaker of those four languages, it is essential to conduct a language mapping and find out the proximity and the distance of those languages.

However, this study was only limited to the phonological system of the Sanggar language. People use the phonological system to differentiate their language from other languages (Ningsih & Purwaningsih, 2013). When we learn about the phonological system, we will learn about the structure of the languages and how the languages are produced. Moreover, Juliawati (2013) conducted research in the Sanggar district, stated that the local culture of Sanggar was almost extinct, and it may affect for Sanggar language. The Sanggar language is almost extinct because the community

rarely uses it. Therefore, the research about phonological system of Sanggar language is essential to be conducted. Moreover, the proximity between Sanggar language and three other languages in Bima regency already found by Budasi et al., (2021).

According to Budasi et al., (2021), the Sanggar language has a 50% proximity percentage to the Bima language. Meanwhile, the percentage of the proximity of the Sanggar language to the Sambori and Kolo languages are 44.1% and 41.1%, respectively. With these percentages, Budasi et al., (2021) concludes that Sanggar is truly exist in Bima regency, especially at Sanggar district. However, there is no previous study about the Sanggar language, so there is no document about this language.

There were several studies about phonological system of languages that conducted in Bima regency, except Sanggar language. First, Putra (2022) has conducted a study on the phonological system of the Sambori language in Bima regency. Putra found there were 72 phonemes in the Sambori language. Putra also found that not all phonemes in Sambori have a complete distribution. Furthermore, Candra (2022) has also conducted a study on the phonological system of the Kolo language in Bima regency. In his study, Candra managed to find 46 phonemes in the Kolo language. He also adds that not all the phonemes of the Kolo language have a complete distribution.

Although there were researchers have studied about phonological system of languages in the Bima regency, there was no researcher has yet conducted a study of the phonological system of the Sanggar language

descriptively. Therefore, this study was focused on the phonological system of the Sanggar language in Bima regency. The results of this study will support the languages grouping in Indonesia, especially in West Nusa Tenggara. Thus, the researcher can contribute the languages mapping, especially in West Nusa Tenggara, and support the government programs in language mapping in Indonesia. The aim of this study was to investigate and describe the phonological system of Sanggar Language in Bima regency, West Nusa Tenggara, Indonesia.

## **1.2 Research Questions**

Based on the research background, the research questions of this study are:

- 1) What are the vowel phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions?
- 2) What are the diphthong phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions?
- 3) What are the consonant phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions?
- 4) What are the consonant cluster phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions?
- 5) How are the syllabic patterns of the Sanggar language?

## **1.3 Purpose of the Study**

Based on the research questions, the purposes of this study are:

- 1) To investigate the vowel phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions.

- 2) To investigate the diphthong phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions.
- 3) To investigate the consonant phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions.
- 4) To investigate the consonant cluster phonemes of the Sanggar language and their distributions.
- 5) To investigate the syllabic patterns of the Sanggar language.

#### **1.4 Scope of the Study**

This study used a descriptive qualitative method. The focus of this study was the phonological system of Sanggar language in terms of the vowel, consonant, diphthong, triphthong, cluster, and syllabic patterns.

#### **1.5 Significance of the Study**

It is expected that the result of this study has theoretical and practical benefits.

##### **a. Theoretical Significance**

The researcher expects that the result of this study can support, contribute, and give theoretical evidence for the finding in the study, especially for the phonological system of the Sanggar language. Therefore, this study is helpful for the existence of the Sanggar language and for proofing the cultural preservation of the Sanggar language.

##### **b. Practical Significance**

Practically, this study is helpful for:

1. Indonesian Government

The result of this study can be an authentic document about one of the languages in Indonesia, which is the phonological system of the Sanggar language. The authentic document about this language can help the government in language grouping in Indonesia, especially in West Nusa Tenggara.

## 2. Linguistics Field

The result of this study can be a reference for the subsequent study about linguistics, especially about the phonological system.

## 3. Educational Field

This study can be a reference for the lecturer of English Language Education (ELE), Ganesha University of Education, to teach phonology in the classroom. Besides, the ELE's students can improve their knowledge about the phonological system by reading this study.

### **1.6 Definition of Key Terms**

In this part, the researcher gives conceptual and theoretical definitions of some key terms related to this study.

#### **a. Conceptual Definition**

##### 1) Language

Language is an arbitrary symbol system used by people orally to communicate with others based on their culture (Rosadi & Hermanto, 2018).

##### 2) Dialect

Njeru (2013) defines dialect as a variety of language differentiating between other languages in terms of phonological, grammatical, and lexical.

3) Phonology

Phonology is a branch of linguistic that study about language sound and patterns (Roach, 2009).

4) Phonemes

A phoneme is the smallest unit or number of a language that distinguishes one word from another and consists of vowels and consonants (Roach, 2009).

5) Phonetics

Phonetics is a study about how sounds are produced and human language is described objectively (McMahon, 2002).

6) Minimal Pairs

Minimal pair is a pair of two words or more, which is differentiated by a single phoneme to mark the differentiation of the meaning (Rojak, 2017).

**b. Theoretical Definition**

1) Language

A language is a communication tool used by Sanggar people to state their minds, feelings, and opinions.

2) Dialect

Dialect is a variation of Sanggar language that differentiates between other languages in terms of phonological, grammatical, and lexical.

3) Phonology

Phonology is a study of the system and structure of sound of the Sanggar language.

4) Phonemes

A phoneme is the smallest unit of the Sanggar language that distinguishes one word from another.

5) Phonetics

Phonetics deal with the sound production of the Sanggar language.

6) Minimal Pairs

Minimal pairs were used for pairing the word of Sanggar language to distinguish their phoneme that marks the distinction of meaning. Minimal pairs are also used for determining the phoneme of the Sanggar language.

