

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter explains several subtopics, namely background of the study, research questions, purposes of the study, scope of the study, significances of the study, and definition of key terms

1.1. Background of the Study

In Indonesia, there are several regional languages. There are various regional languages spoken in Indonesia. Although Indonesian have Indonesian language as the national language. Regional languages have their own dialects. From Sabang to Merauke, several regional languages are spoken. Regional languages are local expressions or identities of specific civilizations that have been passed down as a sort of cultural heritage from generation to generation. Every language is constantly developing and evolving. Social, economic, and cultural changes influence the creation and evolution of a language. The current languages do not just appear to be what they are now. They have certainly had a long history from their proto-languages before becoming the languages that are used now (ancient language).

There are several experts that defining language According to Keraf (1996), as cited in proto-language is an ancient language producing a language family, for example, Proto-Austronesia which is an ancient language of the languages in Indonesia. According to Language is a symbol system used by humans orally based on their culture. People use language to interact with other people. Humans can state their feeling, their though using language . Therefore language is vocal symbols that used by human to communicate one people to another people, we also

said that language used by human in daily activities.

When we talk about language, we are reminded with the dialect of each language. dialects are characteristic of each language. one language has several dialects. According to dialects a linguistic variation of a group of speakers who relative amount, which is in one place, region, or certain area. From the meaning stated by the expert can be known that dialect is a variation speech or language of a group of people who have common characteristics in use of the language. Bima Regency is one of the regencies located in the eastern part of Indonesia. According to , four languages, Bima, Sambori, Sanggar, and Kolo, are spoken. Several dialects emerged from these existing languages, namely Mbojo, Bima, Toloweri, and Donggo. They are all the dialects of Bima Languages. According to the that shows a percentage of more than 81% are Bima, Toloweri, Donggo and Mbojo dialect, and Donggo dialect which is 91%, mbojo and Toloweri dialects 90.5%. Toloweri and Bima dialects 91%, Toloweri and Donggo dialects 86%, Donggo and Bima dialects 84%, Mbojo dialects and Bima 84%. Based on this, the relationship between Bima, Toloweri, Mbojo, and Donggo's dialects are four dialects that show the relationship between dialects in one language. Description and grouping of Language Languages in Bima district, West Nusa Tenggara is conducted. Especially in terms of grouping, it has been done by Budasi in 2018, 2019 and, 2020.

The Toloweri dialect is one of the four Bima languages still actively used by people living in Toloweri Village, Rasanae Timur sub-district. It is primarily used by older people who live in Toloweri Village. Based on raters researchers pre-observation, most of the young people who live in the village have migrated. When

they return to the town, they rarely use the Toloweri dialect. They are more often and fluent in using the Indonesian language. This is not beneficial for the continuity of the dialect. stated that if the speakers do not use the local language, it will become a sign that the language will die or become extinct. Therefore, action to revitalize the dialect is needed to be done. One of these revitalizations is to conduct is phonology studies.

There have been many studies of phonology in the Bima area. Many researchers have carried out these studies, including; Chandra researched phonological system of Kolo language. His research results are as follows; 47 phonemes of Kolo language. Those phonemes are 5 vowel phonemes, 14 diphthong phonemes, 18 consonant phonemes, and 10 consonant cluster phonemes. In phoneme distribution, Candra found that not all of those phonemes have complete distribution. The study also analyzed syllabic patterns of Kolo language, which found there are 22 syllabic patterns of Kolo language. Those syllabic patterns are classified into four classifications, such as monosyllabic, disyllabic, trisyllabic, and tetrasyllabic. conducted a study on the phonological system in the Sanggar language, and the results of his research found 57 phonemes, namely; 5 vowels, 18 diphthongs, 21 consonants, 16 consonant clusters. Indrawan found that not all of those phonemes have complete distribution in terms of phoneme distribution. The study also analyzed syllabic patterns of Sanggar language, which found there are 21 syllabic patterns. Those syllabic patterns are classified into four classifications, such as monosyllabic, disyllabic, trisyllabic, and tetrasyllabic. studied the phonological system in the Sambori language. The results are 72 phonemes. Namely, 5 vowels, 18 diphthongs, 21 consonants, 28 consonant clusters in terms of

phonemes distribution Putra found not all the phonemes have complete distribution. The study also analyzed the sambori language, which found 24 syllabic patterns. Those syllabic patterns are classified into four classifications: monosyllabic, disyllabic, trisyllabic and tetrasyllabic. conducted a study about phonological system of Bima language. Their study found that Bima language have total 38 phonemes. Those phonemes are; 5 vowels, 5 diphthongs, 21 consonants and 7 consonants cluster. They stated that not all phonemes have complete distribution (initial, medial and final) Budasi & Haris also found there are 9 syllabic patterns of Bima language.

Based on all the studies described above, none of them have studied the phonological system of the Toloweri dialect. Researchers consider that this dialect is threatened. Therefore it is needed to be saved. The focus of this study is the phonological system of Toloweri dialect. Specifically, this study aims to determine the segmental phonemes of the Toloweri dialect as one of the Bima languages and their distribution.

1.2. Research questions

Based on the background of this study that has been mentioned above, the research questions of this study are:

1. What are the vowel phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distributions?
2. What are the diphthong phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distribution?
3. What are the triphthongs phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distribution?

4. What are the consonant phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distribution?
5. What are the consonant cluster phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distribution?
6. How are the syllabic patterns of Toloweri dialect?

1.3. Research purpose of the study

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

- 1) To investigate the vowel phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distributions.
- 2) To investigate the diphthong phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distributions.
- 3) To investigate the triphthongs phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distributions.
- 4) To investigate the consonant phonemes of Toloweri Dialect and their distributions.
- 5) To investigate the consonant cluster phonemes of Toloweri dialect and their distributions.
- 6) To investigate the syllabic patterns of Toloweri Dialect

1.4. Scope of the Study

This study used a descriptive qualitative method. Therefore, this study only focuses on the phonological system of Toloweri dialect in terms of the vowel, consonant, diphthong, triphthong, consonant cluster based on their distribution and syllabic pattern.

1.5. Significances of the Study

The results of this study are expected to give theoretical and significance related to the phonological system. The theoretical and practical significance of this study are:

1.5.1. Theoretical Significances

Theoretically, the result of this study is expected to have benefits such as to support and provide theoretical evidence to a study primarily that discuss the phonological system of Toloweri Dialect.

1.5.2. Practical significance

Practical significance for :

a) Education Field

The result of this study is expected to provide data for teachers or lectures who teach phonology and the result can help students to learn phonology, primarily about phonological system Toloweri Dialect e as well.

b) Linguistics Field

The result of this study is expected can be used for other linguists or researcher as a reference to their studies related to the phonological system of Toloweri Dialect.

c) Government Fields

The result of this study is expected to help Indonesian government due to this study can be used as an authentic document about the phonological system of Toloweri Dialect toward one of the languages

in Indonesia.

1.6. Definitions of Key Terms

This section gives both conceptual and theoretical definitions about some key terms related to the topic of this study.

1.6.1. Conceptual Definition

1) Language

Language is a system or a non-instinctive way of communication used by humans to convey opinions, thoughts feelings, and desires from one person to another. (Sapir, 1921 as cited in).

2) Phonology

Phonology is a branch of linguistics that studies the structures and systems of sound in a language. . .

3) Phoneme

Phonemes are linguistic contrastive and minimal units (sounds) that distinguish one word from another. .

4) Phonetics

Phonetics is the study of how a language's speech sounds are produced. (Kornai, 2008).

5) Minimal Pair

Minimal pair is a pair of words in a language that are distinguished by a single sound or phoneme to mark meaning distinctions. .

1.6.2. Operational Definition

1) Language

Language is a system or a non-instinctive way of communication used by humans to convey opinions, thoughts feelings, and desires from one person to another in Toloweri dialect.

2) Phonology

Phonology is a branch of linguistics that studies sound systems and structures. in Toloweri dialect.

3) Phoneme

Phoneme is the smallest unit that can compare words in Toloweri dialect.

4) Phonetics

Phonetics is a study of how speech sounds of in Toloweri dialect.

5) Minimal Pairs

Minimal pair is a word from the Toloweri dialect which is distinguished by one sound or phoneme that distinguishes meaning.

