

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

In this chapter explains about several subtopics, namely background of the study, research questions, purpose of the study, scope of the study, significances of the study, and definition of key term.

1.1 Background of the study

In Indonesia, there are a lot of regional languages. Although Indonesia has Indonesian language as the national language, many Indonesian people use the regional languages in their daily conversations. Those regional languages are local products that become the expression or identity of certain societies in Indonesia. They spread from Sabang to Merauke and have been passed down from generation to generation as a form of cultural heritage.

Every language always experiences development and evolution. The development and evolution of a language occur due to social, economic, and cultural changes. The existence of the current languages does not just appear as what it is now. Before they become the languages as they are used currently, they have definitely undergone a long history from their proto language (ancient language). According to Keraf (1996, as cited in Halimatussakdiah & Widayati, 2019), 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 Budasi (2018), Research Background Seminar on National Language Politics was held on 25-28 February 1975 in Jakarta, the capital city of the Republic of Indonesia. This is in accordance with what was written by the Center for Language Development and Development of the Ministry of Education and Culture of the Republic of Indonesia in a book entitled *Minangkabau Language, Kubuang Togo Dialect*, May 1985. The seminar was about S. regional languages in the territory of the Republic of Indonesia. The seminar in question concluded that regional language research is one of the activities that must be carried out in an effort to maintain and develop regional languages throughout the territory of the Republic of Indonesia. Futher, (Budasi, 2018) mention this is in accordance with the explanation of Article 36. Chapter XV, Law 1945. In this connection, the regional languages used throughout the Republic of Indonesia need to be maintained and developed. The state of local languages in Indonesia in relation to their total number on the one hand, and the number of regional speakers of use and the variation in usage of each region on the other hand require gradual and careful planning and involve various groups, both government and private. Efforts to foster and develop regional languages include activities such as: (1) inventory and (2) enhancing the quality of use. Of course, such activities are closely related to national language development and development efforts. In this case, without exception, research and investment activities of the Donggo dialek area of NTT.

As one of the languages that is still actively spoken in the NTT region, this dialect has a variety. Research on regional dialects in the Republic of Indonesia

can certainly include what has been concluded in language politics seminars as well as in similar seminars that have been conducted afterwards, which are now one of the concerns of the Language Agency management in Jakarta. Donggo is a dialect of the Bima language. The Donggo dialect appears to be the most popular among them, while the other two dialects seem not to be very popular. Linguists have not done much research on these dialects. This factor is one of the driving factors for the author to research is dialects. The Donggo dialect, which also has quite a number of speakers, is very important to be studied considering that this dialect shows differences (as well as similarities) which are in contrast. The Donggo dialect seems to be still productively spoken. So are the other two dialects.

Since the grouping should begin with a complete distribution of the phonology system, this study focuses on the dialect of the Donggo phonology system. The discovery of the Donggo Language Phonology scheme, which had previously been unknown to researchers, is thus the research's novelty.

1.2 Research Question

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 Donggo dialect and their distributions?
- 2) What are the diphthong phonemes of Donggo dialect and their distributions?
- 3) What are the triphthongs phonemes of Donggo dialect and their distributions?
- 4) What are the consonant phonemes of and their distributions?

- 5) What are the consonant cluster phonemes of Donggo dialect and their distributions?
- 6) How are the syllabic patterns of Donggo dialect?

1.3 Purpose of the study

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

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

1.4 Scope of Distribution

This research is limited to research in the Bima dialect of Donggo. The study will focus is the investigating of the phonological system of the Donggo 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 result of this study is expected to have theoretical and practical significances related to phonological system.

1) Theoretical Significance

The findings of this research are supposed to contribute, endorse, and provide theoretical evidence regarding the findings in this study in terms of theoretical significance. In the phonological scheme, the Donggo dialect stands out. As a result, this study is expected to show that Bima's language culture, especially the Donggo dialect, is being preserved. In other words, the presence of dialects in Bima, especially the Donggo dialect, is supported by this study.

Practical Significances

For the practical significances, this study is useful for:

1) For Indonesian Government

The findings of this study can be used to create authentic files or documents about the Donggo a phonological system, which is one of the Bima dialects.

2) For the Linguistics Field

This study is intended to be useful for researchers, especially linguists, in carrying out similar research, as well as a language guide, particularly in the study of phonology.

3) For the Educational Field

The findings of this analysis are intended to provide useful information to phonology lecturers. It can also assist students in learning about phonology, especially the phonological system of a language.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding about specific terms of this study, this section explains the conceptual and theoretical key terms based on the topic of this study:

Conceptual Definition

1. Language

Language is a component of cultural structures and a key aspect of culture that is used as a communication mechanism (Devianty, 2017).

2. Phonology

Phonology is a branch of linguistics that focuses on the characteristics of concrete phonetic sounds used in language, such as articulatory, auditory, and acoustic (Gimson, 1970).

3. Phoneme

A phoneme is a small group of widely used sounds (vowels and consonants) in a language (Roach, 2009).

4. Phonetics

Phonetics is studying how people in Donggo village produce sound.

5. Minimal Pairs

Minimal pairs is words of Donggo dialect distinguished by a single sound or phoneme that marks the distinction of meaning.

