

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter is concerned with such points as background of the study, problem identification, research limitation, research questions, purposes of the study, significance of the study, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Language that exists until now did not appear only by its own. During its first use, it had its original form or shape. As the time went by, there were certain historical processes that changed it into its current form. No exception for The Proto Austronesian (PAn) languages which has gone through the changing processes which also happened on their derivative languages (Bynon, 1979 as cited in Dardanila, 2018). The Austronesian language family was studied using the language comparison method to find cognates, namely words that are similar in sound and meaning and it can be shown that these words come from the same word from the Proto Austronesian language. Languages belonging to one language group usually have a common history of development. Thus, every language used as a means of communication among its speakers has a relationship or kinship with other languages, both far and near. This can be proven through the reconstruction of elements of similarity retention and can also be proven through innovation changes from the original language, at the phonological, lexical, and grammatical levels.

Changes in a language from related languages can be traced by returning the language to its proto-language form, by observing changes at the earliest stage, namely changes in sound at the phonological level. In this regard, the attention of linguists was initially focused on the 'cognate word' cognatic device to find out the kinship between these languages. Observations through this cognatic device are useful for tracing their historical relevance, by formulating the rules for changing the sound of a language as well as its sound correspondence from these related languages, so that it is possible to select the current language lexicon which is a continuation of the original language or its proto-language (Fernandez, 1988). Some languages that derived from Proto Austronesian languages are Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar languages in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara. Those languages are mainly used to communicate by their native speakers in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

The phenomenon that occurs in the current Bima language is the fading of the use of Bima language among teenagers. One of the descriptions of the above conditions has been proven by the results of observations made in the city of Bima. In the city of Bima, almost all of the residents are people originally from Bima and live in Bima. Some of them are teenagers who can speak Bima well. However, they rarely use Bima language, but Indonesian language. This is because Bima district consists of various villages and sub-districts with their own dialects. In order to facilitate communication from people who have different cultural

backgrounds, they use Indonesian language. However, this is what can discriminate against the indigenous languages in Bima. The above conditions, especially in the city of Bima, reflect the symptoms of the extinction of the Bima language as a regional language, because the teenagers are responsible in continuing the use of Bima language as the media to communicate among Bimanese people. If the youth no longer use Bima language, gradually the language will become extinct.

Therefore, in helping the preservation of the existence of the languages in Bima, the writer did a library study with the instrument was the reconstruction of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar. This study was done by Indriani (2022), it turned out that from 1682 proto-etymons, there were 681 proto-etymons have same forms, 396 proto-etymons have similar forms, and 579 proto-etymons have different forms. In this study, the writer continued the previous study and investigated the phonemes and lexical forms of Proto Austronesian (PAn) that are reflected in Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar in Bima Regency, and the theory of reflection can be applied. Reflection can be defined as a phenomenon where a phrase or word which has more than a meaning or sense in terms of linguistics. Related to reflection, Hale (2007) stated that one of the types of reflection is phonological reflection. In this study, the existence of PAn in Proto Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar which are reflected from PAn dictionary can be taken as the example. One thing that can be seen from the reflection of PAn etymons in Proto Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and

Sanggar is the sound change. According to Crowley (1992), sound change as the form of interrelationship can be divided into nine types, namely a) *sound addition* which consists of *prosthesis*; *epenthesis*; *paragoge*; and *excrecence*; b) *metathesis*; c) *fusion*; d) *lenition* and *fortition*; f) *unpacking*; f) *assimilation*; g) *dissimilation*; h) *diphthongization*; and i) *abnormal sound changes*.

Budasi's study in 2019 entitled "*Pantulan Proto Austronesia pada Proto Sambori Teta*" had shown the kinship of Sambori dialect with other dialects in Bima, West Nusa Tenggara. Moreover, the findings of Pratiwi (2020) had shown that Sambori dialect has 9 types of sound change from Proto Austronesian (PAN). Both studies had succeeded in finding the reflection of Proto Austronesian to Sambori and Teta dialects in Bima regency, but none of those studies found the reflection of Proto Austronesian (PAN) to Proto Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar. Therefore, this proposed research investigated more on the reflection of Proto Austronesian (PAN) etymons to Proto Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar based on the types of sound change proposed by Crowley (1992).

This study can be used as a reference in finding way to save Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara. This study is also aimed to provide an authentic document for Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar preservation. This means that one of the ways in saving Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and

Sanggar should be done. That is why this study entitled *The Reflection of PAN Etymons to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara: A Descriptive Qualitative Study* was conducted in order to find out the Reflection of Proto Austronesian to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

1.2 Problem Identification

Based on the background of the study, it can be said that a study about the reflection of PAn etymons to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar needs to be done since it can be used in future related researches.

1.3 Research Scope

The study of this research is a mix between library research and descriptive-qualitative research design. It focuses on linguistic study. This research is limited to analyse the reflection and types of lexical and sound change of PAn etymons to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar based on Crowley's theory (1992).

1.4 Research Questions

- a. What are the forms of etymons of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reconstructed from PAn based on Top-Down reconstruction?
- b. What are the types of lexical change of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reflected from PAn?
- c. What are the types of sound change of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reflected from PAn?

1.5 Purposes of the Study

- a. To identify the form of etymons of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reconstructed based on Top-Down reconstruction.
- b. To investigate the types of lexical change of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reflected from PAn.
- c. To identify the types of sound change of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reflected from PAn.

1.6 Significance of the Study

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this research is expected to show the reflection, the form, and the types of sound change and lexical change of PAn etymons to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

2. Practical Significance

a. Indonesian Government in the Field of Education

This study can be used as an authentic document about the reflection of Proto Austronesian that is found in Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar. In other words, Indonesian Government can use this study as an authentic document for Bimanese languages preservation in West Nusa Tenggara which can be used as a reference in studying Protolanguage in Bima and its history.

b. Linguistic Field

Other researchers can use the result of this study as a reference to conduct further studies about linguistics, especially about the reflection

of Proto Austronesian to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

c. English Language Education

This study can be used as a reference for English Language Education's students to conduct further studies about linguistics, especially about the reflection of Proto Austronesian to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

1.7 Definition of Key Terms

1.7.1 Conceptual Definition

1) Protolanguage

Protolanguage is an ancient language forming a language family.

2) Proto Austronesian (PAN)

Proto Austronesian is one of the major language families (Nasoichah et al., 2020).

3) Reflection

In terms of linguistics, reflection refers to a phenomenon in which a single phrase or word is linked with more than one meaning or connotation (Pratiwi, 2020).

4) Sound Change

A phonological process causes a change in the phonetic form of a sound, which is known as sound change (Pratiwi, 2020).

5) Lexical Change/Lexical Innovation

Lexical change/lexical innovation refers to the renewal of the word forms which have several different syllables, but still have the same meaning (Suparman, 2019).

1.7.2 Practical Definition

1) Protolanguage

Protolanguage is the group of language family spoken in Bima Regency by their native speakers which are then reconstructed into Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

2) Proto Austronesian (PAn)

Proto Austronesian (PAn) is the ancient language of Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

3) Reflection

Reflection means a phenomenon where a single phrase or word is associated with more than a meaning or sense in terms of linguistics, for example the reflection of Proto Austronesian in Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

4) Sound Change

Sound change means a change in the phonetic form of a sound, for example, the sound change of Proto Austronesian to Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar.

5) Lexical Change/Lexical Innovation

Lexical change/lexical innovation refers to the renewal of the forms of etymons in the Protolanguage of Bima, Sambori, Kolo, and Sanggar reflected from PAn.

