

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### 1.1 Background

Indonesia is a country that has many regional languages and Indonesian is its national language. In the use of language, there are still many people who use regional languages as their daily language. The regional language used can be a characteristic of a region. However, in its use as a communication tool, the development of regional languages also produces various language variants called dialects. This allows a language to appear in several dialects that have kinship between one dialect and other dialects in the same language. Determine dialect kinship, it is done by comparing and seeing the level of similarity in several aspects. The aspects compared are phonological, morphological, syntactic, and sociolinguistic aspects.

Bima Regency is one of the regencies in West Nusa Tenggara which has a regional language. The district with an area of 4,389 kms<sup>2</sup> has a population of 514,105 people (based on data from the Central Bureau of Statistics for Bima Regency in 2020). In a study of language groupings spread across Bima Regency, it was stated that Bima Regency has a language group with 4 regional languages in it, namely Bima Language, Kolo Language, Sanggar Language, and Sambori Language (Budasi, 2019). One of the four regional languages, the Bima language, has been further investigated and found that there are four dialects in this language. These four dialects are the Bima, Toloweri, Mbojo, and Donggo dialects. However, in the fact, the grouping of languages and dialects carried out by Budasi in Bima Regency has not been completely completed.

There is no concrete evidence that can show the kinship and position of the four dialects in the Bima language. The concrete evidence in question is the lexical and phonological features between the dialects.

As previously explained, Mbojo and Donggo are two dialects of the Bima language. However, in several studies related to the Bima language that have been carried out, the level of kinship between the Mbojo dialect and the Donggo dialect has not been explained in detail when viewed from the lexical characteristics that exist in the dialect. The absence of lexical and phonological characteristics that differentiate and unite the Mbojo and Donggo dialects can lead to invalid data on the Bima language recorded at the center of Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa Indonesia (Indonesian Language Development Department), especially those related to the Mbojo and Donggo dialects.

Therefore, further studies on the density between the Mbojo dialect and the Donggo dialect are still necessary and must be carried out immediately to complete the central data of the Language Development and Development Agency regarding the language and dialect groupings in Bima. This study will focus on the lexical characteristics that unite and differentiate the Mbojo dialect and the Donggo dialect to show the level of kinship between the Mbojo dialect and the Donggo dialect in terms of morphology, especially lexical characteristics. Therefore, this research is entitled "THE LINGUISTIC FEATURES WHICH UNITE AND DIFFERENTIATE NNGAHI MBOJO AND DONGGO DIALECT".

## 1.2 Problem Identification

Knowledge of language literature can be a cultural characteristic that a nation can be proud of, so sustainable research for language development becomes part of disseminating language knowledge. I Gede Budasi is one of the researchers who has researched the development of regional languages in the Bima Regency. He studied the history of language development and kinship relations between languages or dialects used in Bima. From his several recent studies regarding the languages and dialects used in Bima, there is a lack of data and information on several aspects. One of the data and information that has not been explained clearly in his recent research is the kinship relationship between the Mbojo and Donggo dialects, especially in linguistic lexical features that make these two dialects different but still belong to Bima's language.

The lack of valid data and information that explains the relationship or level of kinship between the Mbojo and Donggo dialects can lead to different perceptions or misunderstandings in recognizing these two Bima dialects. It needs special attention so that it can be clearly grouped and recorded validly at the Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa Indonesia as one of the diversity of languages in Indonesia, especially in Bima Regency. Therefore, this follow-up research appears to complement the Bima language information at Badan Pengembangan dan Pembinaan Bahasa Indonesia related to the kinship relationship between the Mbojo and Donggo dialects based on the lexical linguistic features that unite and differentiate these two dialects.

### **1.3 Research Scope**

This study is in form of Descriptive Qualitative Research. The study is conducted in Ngali village. The focus of this study is on linguistic lexical features between Nggahi Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect. The study is limited to analyze the lexical features which unite and differentiate Nggahi Mbojo Dialect and Donggo dialect.

### **1.4 Research Questions**

- 1.4.1 What is the degree of kinship and the kinship status between Nggahi Mbojo and Donggo dialects?
- 1.4.2 What are the lexical features which unite and differentiate Nggahi Mbojo and Donggo dialects?

### **1.5 Research Objectives**

Based on the exposure above, the problem of the study can be formulated as follows:

- 1.5.1 To know the degree of kinship and the kinship status between Nggahi and Donggo dialects.
- 1.5.2 To analyze the lexical features which unite and differentiate Nggahi Mbojo and Donggo dialects.

## **1.6 Research Significance**

The importance of this research is seen from two perspectives. They are of theoretical significance and practical significance.

### **1.6.1. Theoretical Significance**

This study is useful to broaden the knowledge of linguistic theory in the lexical linguistic features of Nggahi Mbojo Dialect, especially in similarities and differences in lexical linguistic features between Nggahi Mbojo Dialect and Donggo dialect.

### **1.6.2. Practical Significance**

The result of the study is expected to be significance for:

a. Linguistics Field

The result of the study can be used as references to do other studies about Nggahi Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect in Bima Regency.

b. Indonesian Government

This study can be used as an authentic document about the lexical features of Nggahi Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect that are used in Bima Regency as a form of Bimanese language preservation.

c. Other researchers

This study can be used by other researchers as a reference for further research on linguistics, especially related to lexical features between Nggahi Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect.

d. English Language Education

This study can be used by ELT students as a further reference in studying linguistics, especially in lexical features between Nggahi Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect as a reference for similar studies.

## 1.7 Definition of Key Term

### 1.7.1 Conceptual Definition

1) Language

Language is means of communication which used to convey ideas, thought, feelings, and emotions to other people (Aslami, 2019).

2) Dialect

Dialect is a variation of language used in a specific area (Item, 2009). The language variation is when there is an insignificant difference in the linguistic system. So it cannot be categorized as a language (Gracia & Sandhu, 2015).

3) Lexical Feature

Lexemes and lexical variants, according to Smoliana (2013), are linguistic elements that have their own meanings, cannot be predicted based on the meaning of the arts, and may be considered from several viewpoints. Furthermore, according to Katamba (1994), lexicon as lexical variety is the collection of words, the internalized dictionary that every speaker of the language possesses, as stated by Temaja (2016).

### 1.7.2 Operational Definition

1) Language

Language is a tool used to convey intentions or ideas to others as a form of communication system so that it can be reached by people in Bima Regency.

2) Dialect

Dialects are variations of language that differ in several aspects as a result of proto-language modifications. This also occurs in the Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect which are variations of the Bima language.

3) Lexical Feature

Lexical feature analyzed by comparing of the writing word of Mbojo dialect and Donggo dialect.

