

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

This section concerns research background, problems identification, scope of the study, research questions, research objectives, and research significance. This chapter is provided to give a clear understanding of the reason why the researcher conducted this study.

### 1.1 Research Background

Language is a complex tool for communication that humans use when interacting with each other. Generally, humans are social beings who live in relationships with others. A language can be freely changed in some aspects based on its society, depending on how the speakers use it (Kartikasari et al., 2020). Sociolinguistics refers to the relations between the language used by humans and the society where humans are socialized. The language humans use daily is affected by social factors such as the social background, the speakers' relation, and the context or manner of use (Sormin, 2021). From those social factors, it can be interpreted that how humans use language depends on whether it is formal or informal. For example, students' language at education will be different when communicating with their teachers or friends.

Sociolinguistics aims to gain knowledge and meaning from language and society's relationship (Latifa, 2021). In this case, language is connected with society

because humans can speak with no one and need others to build a conversation. It also has a relation in which a society cannot be defined without a language; instead, a language needs society to be used. Moreover, the value of language naturally depends on the society itself and how they use the language. Language also determines the identity of humans, such as how they know and understand each other (Siregar, 2021). In addition, a society can only comprehend some perspectives in the world with language. For example, the way humans think also depends on the language itself. These relations are the purposes and targets of studying sociolinguistics.

Language and society have strong relations, interfering with any aspect of language. According to Basuki et al. (2019), social interaction can emerge in a large variety of languages because the speakers may produce new languages and have more choices in using the language. This case can be referred to as language varieties occurring within social interaction. Language variation cannot be separated from the speech community where the language is used. The speakers are not homogeneous because they come from different sexes, occupations, education, beliefs, abilities, and social statuses. In this field, they play essential roles in revealing variations in their speech, which can indicate where they come from through regional variations in a language (Purba et al., 2020). Therefore, they can freely change and set the language into different words and sounds, becoming language variations.

Language variations can emerge in bilingual or multilingual societies in regions containing language deviations. It occurs when there is an interaction between speakers and speech partners (Latifah et al., 2017). In this case, situational

and social factors will influence the language itself. Situational factors participate in the conversation, especially in choosing words and encoding them, whereas social factors include age, sex, economic, residence, and others (Basuki et al., 2019). Both factors have significantly impacted language development in a society where those factors can modify language into any variations. Language variation involves a phenomenon of the interactions within the language communities related to the functions, situations, and social feelings of the language users (Wirata, 2021). Thus, sociolinguistics covers the variety of language used in societies that is caused by the influences of situational and social factors.

Sociolinguistics tends to give differences in the standard of language use in societies. The language system of units and structures in sociolinguistics enables the speakers to produce the exact words differently (Buson et al., 2018). With any variation, the speakers can mix cues from the different standards of dialects in their utterances. Language has many variations regarding how it is spoken by society. The language itself is used in such variations in each community. The variation itself differentiates the language used by the organization, and language variation can be found in a multilingual environment. According to Hudson (1996:22), language varieties can be analyzed through dialects, registers, and various varieties. Those components are mainly the focus of the diversity among languages. The varieties of language can be extended more depending on how large the society.

Kampung Saren Jawa (Dusun Saren Jawa) is located in Budakeling village, Bebandem, Karangasem, Bali. Saren Jawa belongs to Budakeling village which consists of eight sub-villages. Among all sub-villages in Budakeling, Saren Jawa is the only sub-village dominated by Muslim communities. This Muslim village had

existed long ago when Muslims in Indonesia had been spread out in Bali. Their ancestor came from Java Island, and it is believed that this village is one of the first Muslim communities in Bali. According to the interview with the village chief, Saren Jawa has 161 families with around five hundred family members. The development of communities in Saren Jawa is mainly dominated by marriages of local people born in the same and the ones who come from Java. (Google Map: <https://maps.app.goo.gl/hG96rmq9rciMnE3SA>).

This sub-village can be categorized as an ethnic village where the people live and stand for their own strong culture and tradition. This village still adopts Balinese tradition since they were born from Balinese culture mixed with Muslim culture. For instance, the names in this village still use Balinese entries such as *Wayan*, *Made*, *Nyoman*, and *Ketut*, even though they are all Muslim. The majority of the Muslim communities are farmers with large farms around this village, and some work outside of the central city. The Muslim communities live peacefully among the other Hindu communities in Budakeling village. Based on the preliminary observation, it was found that both Muslim and Hindu communities support and respect each other as Budakeling communities. It can be seen from some traditions and ceremonies celebrated together by the communities.

Saren Jawa has been influenced by Balinese culture and Arabic culture. This situation can affect speech production, which is applied internally by the local people only. Three languages are being used in this village: Balinese, Bahasa Indonesia, and Arabic. Based on the preliminary observation, the communities in Saren Jawa use mixed speeches to communicate with each other in the sub-village or among the other sub-villages. Adult communities in the village use Balinese to

communicate since they are also initially recognized as Balinese. However, children and youth communities tend to use Bahasa Indonesia instead of Balinese. Arabic is used only when there is a ceremonial event and prayer. Therefore, three codes are being used by speech communities in Saren Jawa to communicate with each other. Those codes are mixed and frequently switched according to the situation.

In Saren Jawa, the language is developed and varied by the communities internally. They have several different and unique word forms which are only used by the communities in this sub-village or none of the other villages use them. Based on the preliminary observation, the researcher found some phenomena about language use in this village, in which the speech communities use the Balinese Language (Bahasa Bali) to communicate daily instead of using Bahasa Indonesia. The communities tend to use Balinese in particular ways, as how the Balinese Language has levels of speech which differentiate the social groups and their positions. The researcher found that the communities usually speak differently among their groups and sometimes change their language again when they talk to others outside the group. For example, when a local person from Saren Jawa speaks with the same local people, their language and dialect will be in the same form and use Balinese and Indonesian. However, when they speak to others from outside the sub-village, their language will follow the language (Balinese Language) used by interlocutors. Therefore, the researcher was willing to identify the lexical variations used by speech communities in Saren Jawa.

Lexical varieties or lexical variations are considered any variances or variations of vocabularies in a language since lexicon refers to a language lexicon

(Kamal & Hanafi, 2022). The variation occurs when the users change the meaning of words over time. Vocabulary can be developed and changed if there is an agreement which can also affect the societies. A number of sociolinguistic research studies have proved that language variation is mainly connected with social factors such as education, age, historical situation, social class, and region (Sormin, 2021). This is because language is changeable according to interactions via language contact, influence, new technology, and media. This refers to the lexicon and directs to lexical variation, which can result in the development of new words by changing and disappearing the old words, even though the words still exist in dictionaries or are present in written text as standard varieties (Njeyiyana, 2022). Therefore, conducting lexical research in a new field is essential to invent new words instead of maintaining the old ones that existed.

As a comparison, several studies were conducted by some researchers about analyzing language variations used in particular places. First, a study conducted by Carrió-Pastor & Muñiz-Calderón (2015) attempted to investigate the lexical variations in Chinese Business English. Lexical variations were found when business people from China and Hong Kong used English as an international working language. The second study comes from Kamal & Hanafi (2022), who investigated the lexical variations in Pashto spoken in Paktia and Nangrahar. The examination of the collected data from both study tools showed prominent differences in spoken Pashto in Paktia and Nangrahar from the viewpoint of lexical variation. Lastly, a study by Pura et al. (2022) investigated how the pandemic fuels linguistic change: lexical innovations in L1 and L2 English varieties. The findings revealed that L1 countries have the highest frequency of use of the pandemic

lexemes, the highest number of prevalent or high-frequent pandemic lexemes, and the highest number of unique word combinations. The researcher used and adapted the study's results to support and develop this research.

## **1.2 Problems Identification**

Based on the research background, preliminary observation was done to identify the main problems that occur in the field in order to create a conceptual framework for the study. The researcher conducted early observation by visiting the village and interviewing the chief and figures of the village. Based on preliminary observation, it was found that muslim speech community in Saren Jawa uses Balinese, Bahasa Indonesia, and Arabic in communication. They mostly use Balinese (Bahasa Bali) for daily interaction in the village. However, the youth community in Saren Jawa speaks both Balinese and Bahasa Indonesia. Moreover, it was found that the Balinese accent in Saren Jawa is more affected by the Melayu accent than the Balinese. Thus, a phenomenon was found in this muslim village where they tend to use Balinese politely with different lexicons as the standard Balinese. This phenomenon brought the study on focusing the analysis of their lexical variations and how they use the language in daily interaction.

## **1.3 Scope of the Study**

This study is limited to the sociolinguistic area, which focuses on identifying lexical variation used by the muslim speech community of Saren Jawa when they interact verbally in the village. The language is focused on the Balinese Language (BL), Indonesian Language (IL), and Arabic Language (AL). The lexical variation

was investigated and compared with the standard lexicon in Balinese. The lexicons were mostly produced in form of Balinese in which the community in Saren Jawa uses Balinese more to interact verbally. The Balinese Language focused in this study is the standard Balinese as the Balinese dialect which mostly used in the Bali Dataran dialect which mainly used by those who live around the middle and urban areas of Balinese Island, where the Balinese mostly use this dialect in general. Therefore, this study aimed to investigate the lexical variation and how they use such varieties. Besides, the implementation of the lexical varieties from the community referring to the language used is identified in this study. The varieties included the lexical variation, language use, which refers to code-mixing, code-switching, and some varieties.

#### **1.4 Research Questions**

1. What lexical differences are observed in the Muslim speech community in Saren Jawa compared to the standard Balinese lexicon?
2. How does the Muslim speech community use lexical variations in Saren Jawa to interact?

#### **1.5 Research Objectives**

1. To observe the lexical variations used in the Muslim speech community in Saren Jawa as well as compared to the standard Balinese lexicon
2. To investigate how the Muslim speech community use lexical variations in communication



## 1.6 Research Significance

The result of this research is likely to contribute to education development, especially in linguistic fields such as sociolinguistics, where languages and societies have strong relations to each other in developing languages and their use. This study is expected to help the teachers understand the breakdown of sociolinguistics, including codes used and varieties which exist in an ethnic place and how the codes are used to interact verbally. The findings of this study hopefully can be part of the community data as an original characteristic of language used in this village. Afterwards, it is expected that this study can give contribution to the development of the language policy used by the community in Saren Jawa. The language policy can be useful as the local language and it is an asset for the generation in the future. The result also can support the policy makers who can prove the existence of this lexical differences as supporting references in the local language itself. Furthermore, this study is expected to benefit other researchers as an alternative source when conducting related studies.

## 1.7 Research Assumption

According to Sugiyono (2016), using technique triangulation means to reach data from different techniques to obtain more detailed information. For example, besides using interview and observation, researchers can use participant observation, written documents, etc. Those will produce different evidence or data that provide different insights about the phenomenon. Those views will give abroad of knowledge to obtain the reliable truth. In this study, the researcher had proposed two main assumptions as the trustworthiness of the data of this study. First, the

lexical variations found were verified by two experts to get the validity and the reliability of the data. The lexical differences were compared to the standard Balinese lexicons by using Swadesh list and then examined by the experts. Second, the researcher used interview technique in collecting the data. The interview was done repeatedly until the data is reliable by using participatory and non-participatory observations. Formal and informal data were obtained through interviewing the five language domains.

### **1.8 Publication Target**

From the result of this research is likely to contribute to national publication, especially in linguistics fields. The result would be in form of accredited journal at least in official Sinta 4 in national publication. Therefore, this research was proposed to contribute in **Journal of English Language and Pedagogy (Journey)**.

