

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter concerns the research background, research questions, purposes of the study, research scope, research significances, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Sambori language is a language actively used by the community of language speakers in Lambitu district of Bima Regency in West Nusa Tenggara/Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB). The research on Sambori and Teta grouping as a language was carried out by Budasi (2019), in which these two languages are two different dialects which are derived from one language called Sambori language. Following that study, the Sambori language has a very different lexicon from the local languages in Bima Regency. Local linguists are doubtful that this language is the native language in Bima. On the other side, the study conducted by Budasi (2019), according to the statistical lexicon calculation, has succeeded in determining the Sambori language's kinship with other languages in West Nusa Tenggara/Nusa Tenggara Barat (NTB). It is said that this Sambori language has a very close relationship with other local languages in Bima. It also shows that Sambori dialect has a 98% similarity with Teta dialect. It means that they are two different dialects of the same language. According to Fernandez (1988), a dialect can be a derivative language if one has a kinship of languages that reaches 36% to 81%; both numbers have been found at 56%.

Sambori language is in line with the other four languages in Bima Regency: Toloweri, Sangar, Bima, Kolo, and Mbojo. Although this position of these languages is equal and has been analyzed statistically by Budasi (2019), there are still doubts by the local people in Bima that Sambori language is related to other languages. Most people in Bima Regency say that Sambori language does not belong to the families of the other languages in Bima. The people's trust is difficult to change about Sambori language relatives in Bima. A thorough study of the existence of two dialects as a Sambori language is needed.

All languages in Bima, Sumbawa, Flores, and Sabu in Budasi studies (2018) and (2017) are derived from the Proto Austronesian language. Therefore, before qualitatively completing the language to find out the position of Sambori language, it is necessary to trace the connection between Sambori and Proto Austronesia, which covers all languages in Bima. This is very necessary; it is essential for the completeness of language mapping in West Nusa Tenggara (NTB), especially in Bima. This is in line with why the Indonesian government Language Agency is completing language mapping in NTB. Therefore, the existence of the Sambori language is essential to be discussed and explored.

One way to explore this is by finding out the connection between Sambori and Teta languages as revealed in Saras' unpublished thesis entitled "The Proto of Sambori Language: A Qualitative Study" (2020) but still that is not enough. According to Budasi (2019), these Sambori and Teta dialects are two different dialects. Then it must be proven phonologically that these two dialects are different. This lexical differentiation has already been done, but some things need to be further investigated because of the different systems, and the local

views that saying many Sambori residents moved to Teta, bringing their language. There is a migration of people by carrying language. Language transfer will not maintain the original language purely. That language will acculturate with the local language. Then there will be language changes, both in terms of phonology or lexion. To prove this, an analysis is needed which proves that Sambori dialect and Teta dialect are different dialects with several lexical similarities.

According to Crowley (1992), interrelationship of linguistic features can be seen from the sound change characteristics of proto lexicon of the primary language in its derived lexicons. Crowley (1992) explains that sound change as a form of interconnection could be in the form of nine types, namely: assimilation, dissimilation, addition, lenition, fortition, metathesis, fusion, and unpacking and abnormal sound change. Therefore, the type of sound change by Crowley's theory can be used if the sound change needs to be described. Thus, the position status of Sambori language in the district of Bima will be complete. This is important and must be implemented immediately because of the central government's demands in completing the language mapping. Thus, this study is concerned with the linguistic features which unite Sambori and Teta dialects and the types of sound change from Sambori dialect to the Teta dialect. It is from Sambori to Teta dialect and not vice versa because of the origin of these two dialects are from the same language called Sambori language.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of the study, the research problems of this study can be stated as follows:

- a. What are the linguistic features or the evidences which unite Sambori and Teta dialects?
- b. How many types of sound changes occur from Sambori dialect to Teta dialect?

1.3 Purposes of the Study

Reffering to the research questions previously mentioned, the purposes of this study can be formulated as follows:

- a. To describe the linguistic features or the evidences which unite Sambori and Teta dialects.
- b. To find out the types of sound change of the primary language that occur from Sambori to Teta dialects.

1.4 Research Scope

This study belongs to descriptive qualitative research. The study is conducted in Sambori and Teta villages, Lambitu district, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB). The focus of this study is on linguistic phonology and lexical variation study. The study was limited to find out linguistic features that unite Sambori and Teta dialect and types of sound change that occur from Sambori dialect to Teta dialect.

1.5 Research Significances

This study is expected to give significant contribution to the development of linguistics study, both theoretical and practical significances.

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

This study is useful to broaden the knowledge of linguistics theory in phonology, and lexical variation of Sambori and Teta dialects, especially in the terms of the linguistic features that unite Sambori and Teta dialects and the types of sound change that occurs from Sambori dialect to Teta dialect.

1.5.2 Practical Significances

The result of this research is expected to contribute to:

a. Indonesian Government

This study can be used as an authentic document about the linguistic features that unite Sambori and Teta dialects and the type of sound change from Sambori to Teta dialects. In other words, the Indonesian government can use the result study as an authentic document for Bimanese language preservation and complete the language mapping.

b. Other Researchers

Other researchers can use this study to conduct further studies about linguistics, especially about the linguistic features that unite the Sambori and Teta dialects and the types of sound change from Sambori to Teta dialects.

c. Bimanese People

This study can be used as a reference or as a source to help the college students, teachers, and students to study their local language.

d. English Language Education

This study can be used as a reference for English Language Education (ELE)'s students to conduct further studies about linguistics, especially about the linguistic features which unite Sambori and Teta dialects and the types of sound change that occurred from Sambori to Teta dialects.

1.6 Definitions of Key Terms

In order to avoid misunderstanding, certain key terms used in this study are defined both conceptually and operationally.

1.6.1 Conceptual Definition

a. Phonology

According to Sapir (1925), phonology is defined as a linguistics field which studies and analyzes about sounds of languages.

b. Sound Change

According to Lass (1984), sound change can be defined as any particular phonetic or phonological change in a language's sound system over a while.

c. Dialect

Roach (2001) states that dialect could be defined as a term used to identify different language varieties in vocabulary and grammar.

d. Linguistics Uniting Features

According to Budiharso (2016), linguistic uniting features refer to the use of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanical aspects of writing which unite two different dialects or languages.

1.6.2 Operational Definition

a. Phonology

Phonology is defined as the study of sound systems about how the speech sounds of Sambori language are structured.

b. Sound Change

Sound change can be defined as any particular phonetic or phonological change in Sambori language of Sambori and Teta dialect sound systems over a while.

c. Dialect

Dialect could be defined as a term used to identify different language varieties in vocabulary and grammar such as Sambori and Teta dialect used in this research.

d. Linguistic Uniting Features

Linguistic uniting features refer to the use of sentence construction, grammar, and mechanical aspects of writing which unite two different dialects, namely Sambori dialect and Teta dialect.