CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents several points, namely; background of the study, research questions, purpose of the study, scope of the study, significances of the study, and definition of key terms.

1.1 Research Background

Language is essential in all aspects of human life. It is most commonly used to communicate with one another, share information, knowledge, experiences, feelings, opinions, and learn from one another. According to Noppeney and Wallesch (2000), language is a communication system based on sounds used to express one's feelings, thoughts, experiences, opinions, or ideas to other people. It is reasonable to assume that language is essential in society because it serves a variety of functions in human life and because it allows humans to engage in meaningful conversation and express their thoughts, feelings, and experiences through language. Furthermore, it is a fact that people use language to identify themselves as belonging to a particular country.

In a language and dialect, there is a phenomenon known as reflection. In linguistics, reflection is defined as a phenomenon in which a single phrase or word is associated with more than one meaning or sense. Concerning reflection, there is a type of reflection that can be classified in linguistics; this type of reflection is known as phonological reflection (Hale, 2007). The Proto-

Austronesian dialect of Teta Dialect is used as an example of phonological reflection in this current research.

Fernandez (1988) asserts that two dialects can be classified as having a dialect relationship (the same language) if their kinship relationship ranges from 81 percent to 100 percent. A study conducted by Anggi et al. (2021) found that the relationship between the Sambori and Teta dialects is 86 percent, which could be evidence that the two isolects have dialect relationships. Nonetheless, according to Lehister (1987), a dialect can be considered a language derivative if it exhibits phonological and lexical relationships with the language in question. Comparisons between cognate words in the two dialects and the Protolanguage above them reveal both of them. In this case, both the Sambori and Teta dialects must demonstrate a relationship between their linguistic features and the language they derive, with the Sambori language serving as the parent language in both instances.

The grouping of Sambori and Teta isolects as a language has been determine has been Budasi in 2019, in which those two isolects are two different dialects which were derived from Proto Sambori language. Based on the study conducted by Budasi (2019), the Teta language has different lexicons from local languages in Bima Regency. Local linguistic experts question whether this dialect is Bima Regency's native languages or not, but Budasi (2019) has succeeded in determining the kinship of Sambori language with other languages in Bima regency, West Nusa Tenggara (NTB) which include Bima, Sanggar,

and Kolo (based on the results of calculations of Mexican statistics). Sambori language has very close relation to other local languages in the district.

In addition, Budasi's study has not reached the phonological or lexical relationship between the PAn and the Teta dialect itself (which needs to be reviewed). Thus, other things that still need to be completed are related to the two dialects which are categorized as being inheritance from the PAn, namely: the Teta dialect and the Sambori dialect. Moreover, Anggi has also conducted a study in the same field as this study, but those two studies have not provide at the phonological and lexical reflections of PAN to the two dialect. Therefore, the study was considered as incomplete study because language grouping must occurred between dialects (as stated by Fernandez, Mandala, and Mbete).

1.2 Research Questions

Based on the background of this study that has been mentioned above, the research questions of this study are:

1. How many etymons of the Teta dialect are related to the Proto Austronesian etymons?
2. How is the reflection of Proto Austronesia to Teta dialect in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the research question above, the purpose of the study can be formulated as follows:

To show the reflection of Proto Austronesian to Teta dialect in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

1.4 Research Scope

This study which was conducted in Lambitu District, Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara belongs to descriptive qualitative research. The focus of this study is on linguistics study which is limited to finding out the reflection of Proto Austronesian to Teta Dialect in Bima Regency, West Nusa Tenggara.

1.5 Significance of the Study

The result of this study is expected to be significant for:

1.5.1 Theoretical Significance

For the theoretical significance, the result of this study is expected to support, contribute, and give theoretical evidence of the exiting research finding in the study, especially the "Reflection of Proto Austronesia to Teta Dialect". Additionally, the finding of this study is expected to give positive benefits and contributions to the linguistic field, especially about sound change.

1.5.2 Practical Significance

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

1. Linguistics Field

The result of this study is expected to be useful and beneficial for other researchers (linguists) to conduct similar studies. Moreover, this study can be used as references to do other studies about Teta dialect as the representative of Bimanese language.

2. Indonesian Government

This study can be used as an authentic document about reflection of proto Austronesia that are found in Teta-dialect. In other word, Indonesia Government can used this study as an authentic document for Bimanese language preservation.

3. English Language Education

This study can be used as a references for English Language Education's students to conduct further as a references, especially about reflection as well as the similar studies about Teta dialect.

1.6 Definition of Key Terms

This section gives both conceptual and theoretical definitions about some key terms related to the topic of this study.

a. Conceptual Definition

1) Language Change

Language change refers to how native speakers use different varieties of languages.

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2) Proto Language

Proto language can be defined as the ancient language that can be determined as the origin language of derived languages by utilizing some rules (Keraf, 1996).

3) Dialect

Dialect refers to a variation of a language about characteristic of the users of that language variation that comes from a group of relative numbers of users, living in the some one particular place (Solano, 2006: 2354–2379).

4) Sound Change

Sound Change an alteration in the phonetic shape of a sound as a result of a phonological process.

b. Operational Definition

1) Language Change

Language change refers to how the speakers use different varieties of languages, namely Proto Austronesian and Teta language.

2) Proto Language

Proto language is one of major language families in the world and refers to the ancient language that becomes the ancestor of Sambori-Teta language.

3) Dialect

Dialect refers to variation as a language originating from a group of relative users who live in a place, this is Teta Village.

4) Sound Change

Sound change is an alteration in the phonetic shape of a sound as a result of a phonological process of Proto Austronesian to Teta dialect.