

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of The Study

Language is very important for human beings, we cannot communicate with another without language. We use language in inform others task or give information, to get things done, to request, to ask or give direction, to comment, to report and many other ordinary verbal actions in daily interaction. So it impossible for us to understand other well without a language or without having language people will cripple in their family or social interaction.

Ramelan (1994:1) says, “Language as a means of communication with other people is a tool to express his ideas and wishes. Without language it is hard to imagine how people can cooperate and get along with one another”. Related to this statement, Trudgill (1980:140) states, “ Language is not simply a means of communication information but also a means of establishing and maintaining relationship with other people”. There is a lot of definition about language given by many experts, but in writing the writer just takes some definition given by Douglas (2007:6) they are :

1. Language is systematic.
2. Language is a set of arbitrary symbols.
3. Those symbols are primarily vocal, but may also be visual.
4. The symbols have conventionalized meanings to which they refer.
5. Language is used for communication.
6. Language operates in speech community or culture.

7. Language is essentially human, although possibly not limited to human.
8. Language is acquired by all people in much the same way; language and language learning both have universal characteristics.

Indonesia is a country with many regional languages, so that Indonesia has many kinds of grammar, pronunciation and phonemes, and one place can be different from another. For examples: Sundanese, Javanese, Dayakese, Madurese, etc. each of which identifies its region. In phonemes research through Madura, Badan Pusat Statistik 2000 (2003) presents, “The Madurese are the third largest ethnic population in Indonesia”. Davies in *A Grammar of Madurese* (2010:1) states “The Madurese language the fourth – most widely spoken language in Indonesia”. Thus, the big number of Madurese influences other areas in Indonesia.

About phonemes, Antonie Cohen (1971 : 19) said, “ The sound elements as far as they can be proved to have significant function within the word are called phoneme.”. Thus, phoneme can be defined as the smallest element of language which cannot be divided any further and can be proved to have significant function within the word.

Madurese language is the native language in Madura Island, East End of Java or the area known as the horseshoe area stretching from Pasuruan, Surabaya, Malang, to Banyuwangi, Kangean Islands, Islands Masalembu, until the island of Borneo. According to Husson (1997:80):

Early Madurese migration to East Java began into 13th century, serfs that were sent “to colonize agricultural lands and strengthen the Majapahit Kingdom”.

But, each area has different dialect and phonology by the original regional language. Davies (2010:5) states, “as is true of any language with a significant number of speakers spread over a large geographical area, identifying a homogeneous standard can actually be somewhat controversial, or, at least, misleading”. He further states, “The fact is that the majority of Madurese live outside the island of Madura and speak distinct forms of the language.

All, however, are speakers of Madurese”. The Madurese use by Lebanisuko village is different from that used in Madura island, they speak in different phonemes. With its own phonemes, as far as the writer knows there has been those Lebanisuko phoneme. The differences in words ; for the word how, people in Lebanisuko say “de’reme” [dəʔrəmə] and Madura people say “de’rema” [dəʔrəm^]. From the above stated background, the writer summarizes the reasons for her choice of study, which as follows: first, language is important to be studied. Language is a symbol of communication between people and human cannot avoid using language. Second, Indonesia consist of so many islands; each island has its own language and interestingly one language can have many phonemes. Third, this topic is interesting to discuss. Based on these, the writer has decided to make a study entitled “SOCIO-PHONOLOGICAL ANALYSIS OF LEBANISUKO PHONEMES”.

1.2 Statement of The Problem

Based on the background of the study above, the writer formulates three problems as follows:

1. What are the consonants in Lebanisuko that are different from those in Madura in general?
2. What are the vowels in Lebanisuko that are different from those in Madura in general?
3. In what context do Lebanisuko people use the Lebanisuko Madurese?

1.3 Purpose of the Study

Based on the statements of the problem, the purpose of the study is to identify:

1. The consonants used by Lebanisuko people which are different from Madurese people in general.
2. The vowels used by Lebanisuko people which are different from Madurese people in general.
3. The context where Lebanisuko Madurese use Madurese.

1.4 Significance of The Study

By doing this research, the writer hopes that her study or research would give her a better understanding in sociolinguistics; for the writer can apply her knowledge in sociolinguistics. And for the readers, they would get information and knowledge of Lebanisuko phonemes of Madurese language at Wringinanom, Gresik. Besides that, the writer hopes that this study would increase the number of

references on sociolinguistics in the library of Muhammadiyah University of Surabaya.

1.5 Limitation of The Problem

This study refers to sociolinguistics studying about language as a device of communication used by Lebanisuko people at Wringinanom, Gresik. Nevertheless, this is specified to focus on Madurese used by Lebanisuko people and the writer limited her study to the phonemes in Lebanisuko, concerning consonants and vowels.

1.6 The Definition of Key Terms

Phoneme : “Phonemes are the smallest elements of a language which, according to the feeling of the members of a language community, cannot be divided any further” (Van Wijk, 1939:99). Katamba (1989:18) states that family of sounds is called a phoneme. Cohen (1971:18) also states, “The sound elements as far as they can be proved to have significant functions within the word are called phonemes”.

Based on the above definitions, the writer can conclude that phoneme is one of the family of sounds which can be proved to have significant functions within the word.

Consonant : Katamba (1989:3) says that Speech sounds are produced by interfering in some way with a body of moving air. He (1989:4) further states, “Consonants are produced by obstructing in someway the flow of air through the vocal

tract”. It means that the consonants are speech sounds that produce by obstructing in some way the flow of air in vocal tract.

Vowel : Darwoidjojo (1985:57) says that, “Vowels are speech sounds that can be produced easily because there is no difficulty in producing it. The quality of vowels are depend on three factors, they are the tongue position whether high, middle, or low, then the up and down of the tongue and last is the mouth curve. In addition, when vowel is produced, we can move the tongue up and down in front, middle, or back”. It means that vowels are speech sounds that are produced without obstructing in some way the flow of air in vocal tract.

Lebanisuko people : People who have been residing in Lebanisuko village Kecamatan Wringinanom Kabupaten Gresik that used Madurese language in their daily activity. Although their Madurese are different by Madurese in Madura island. Lebanisuko is part of East Java.