

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

This chapter contains six subchapters. They are background of the study, problem statement, objective of the study, significance of the study, scope and limitation of study and definition of terms. They are explained in details below.

1.1 Background of the Study

Today studies about languages have properly conducted. Language is studied because it has played very important role in many fields of our lives such as education, politics, economics, and other fields. Language connects people to each other and allows the people to participate in variety of activities in everyday life (Agha in Atok, 2019: 1). In the world which we are living in, there are plenty of languages. Every language spoken has its own uniqueness which is different from the other languages. This uniqueness makes people interested to study about language. A study about language is called linguistics. Linguistics is the scientific study of the structure and the development of language in general or of in particular languages (McIntosh in Errom, 2013: 3). Linguistics includes microlinguistics and macrolinguistics. Microlinguistics covers Phonology (a study about sounds of words), Morphology (a study about word forms), Syntax (a study of structure) and Semantics (a study of the meaning). While Macrolinguistics includes Psycholinguistics, Sociolinguistics, Anthropological Linguistics, Philosophical Linguistics, Stylistics, Mathematical and Statistical Linguistics, Language Teaching, Ecolinguistics and Cultural Linguistics. In sociolinguistics,

there is a theory or concept on language in interaction. Or we can say in other word that language in interaction is a part of sociolinguistics, which is the writer's interest in this research.

Language in interaction itself actually covers five sub-topics namely Speaking and Silence, Narratives, Conversational Style, Encoding Relationship and Asymmetrical Talk (Mesthrie, et al. 2000: 184 – 203). This study is about encoding relationship. Encoding relationship is a part of language in interaction and it is a study of how speakers construct a certain kind of relationship with others which explicitly encoded in language (Mesthrie, et al. 2000: 201). The different ways of expressing a language can be found among ethnic groups. In communication, a speaker or a listener uses different language forms to say something or to respond to a statement, which is not always suitable with what is being expected. Sometimes it causes misunderstanding among the speakers and the listeners. Therefore people should not only know their own language, but also know how to use it, for instance, they know whether or not given expression is appropriate in a given situation (Bolinger and Sears in Sogen, 2014: 2).

East Nusa Tenggara province is one of the provinces in Indonesia which has many local languages with various dialects. They are Dawan Language, Tetun Language, Lamaholot Language, Manggarai Language, Rongga Language, Sikka Language, Alor Language, etc (in Fallo, 2013: 2). Rongga Language is the group of language including the Austronesian family, belonging to the East Malayo-Polynesia (EMP). Ronggater's speech area is located in the eastern part of Manggarai Regency, bordered by Ngada Regency. This language region mainly covers the village triangle, namely Tanarata, Komba, and Bamo. But there are also

speakers of the Rongga language found in other villages along the Trans Flores road in the north of Rongga region. Administratively, the Rongga region includes Kota Komba District, East Manggarai Regency (Arka, 2016: 1). The writer is interested in Rongga language because he wants to know the terms of address in Rongga language in addressing people.

In Watu Nggene, people culturally address others according to the local norms. It may cause problems when the people from the other culture background come to Watu Nggene. The misunderstanding or miscommunication may happen when the addressee may get offended or even get angry when the addresser does not consider the local norms in system of addressing. Actually there are some terms of address practiced by Komba people in Rongga language. Some of the terms of address used in Rongga language are quoted below.

1. Ine “Mother”

The term *ine* is used to address a mother and the caller is a child or those who by the culture have to call her *ine*.

2. Ema “Father”

The term *ema* is used to address a father and the caller is a child or those who by the culture have to call him *ema*.

3. Embu, Ene “Grandfather, Grandmother”

The term *embu* is used to address grandfather and *ene* is used to address grandmother.

Considering the explanation above, the writer is very interested in doing a further research about the terms of address in Rongga Language with the title

“Study on Terms of Address of Rongga Language in East Manggarai Regency”.

1.2 Problem Statements

Based on the background of this study, the writer specified the topic in some problem statements, as formulated in the following questions.

1. What are the terms of address of Rongga Language in East Manggarai Regency?
2. What are the functions and the meanings of terms of address of Rongga Language in East Manggarai Regency?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Objective of a study is actually the aims of what a study wants to find out. Based on the problems have been stated above the objectives of the study are as formulated in the statements below.

1. To identify and to describe the terms of address of Rongga Language in East Manggarai Regency.
2. To identify and describe the functions and meanings of terms of address of Rongga Language in East Manggarai Regency.

1.4 Significance of the Study

There are two general significance of this study. They are academic significance as theoretical in linguistic world and practical significance as practicable in daily life (Perry in Erom, 2012: 4).

1.4.1 Academic Beneficial

There are academics significance of this study. Such significances are as follows.

1. The result of this study can become contributions of ideas on linguistic theory, especially dealing with the sociolinguistic theory in the branch of language in interaction.
2. The result of this study can become a scientific reference for the related study review for the coming researchers, especially the local language researches.
3. The result of this study can become an additional source of reference for the maintenance and development of Rongga Language.

1.4.2 Practical Beneficial

The practical significance that might be expected to be achieved from the result of this study are as follows.

1. To provide the linguistic knowledge and skill of the writer on how to conduct and do a research in scientific way.
2. To increase the skill and knowledge of the writer in Rongga Language, especially in encoding relationship of Rongga Language.
3. To provide good information about encoding relationship for the Rongga Language speaker.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study belongs to sociolinguistics. Sociolinguistics is the field that studies the relation between language and society. Sociolinguistics is as the one

part of macrolinguistics. The focus of this study is about language in interaction, specially discusses about encoding relationship of Komba's tribe in Watu Nggene of Rongga Language. Rongga language is language spoken by Komba tribe who resides in East Manggarai regency.

1.6 Definition of Terms

Dealing with this study, the writer wants to define some terms in order to make the readers have the same perception or understanding. It makes also to avoid the ambiguity and misconception about the term used in this study. The terms that the writer would like to define in this writing are as follows:

1. Language

Language is an ability of every person that is used to express their ideas, thoughts and feeling to other people in their daily life.

2. Terms of Address

Terms of Address is defined as a word or phrase used to address an addressee (Elaine in Atok, 2019: 7)

3. Rongga Language

Rongga Language is the one of local languages in East Manggarai regency. It is spoken by Komba's tribe who reside in eastern part of East Manggarai regency. Rongga Language is the group of language including the Austronesian family, belonging to the East Malayo-Polynesia (EMP). Ronggater's speech area is located in the eastern part of Manggarai Regency, bordered by Ngada Regency. In the west of this language is bordered by Manggarai Language. While in the north is bordered by Wae Rana and Kepo'

Rembong Language and in the east is bordered by Wae Rana and Rajong Language (Arka, 2016: 5).

