CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Keraf (1973:13-14) states that language functions as social control, social intregation, and adaption.Infact, language is used to build cooperation with others.

Hall (1968: 158) defines language as '' the institutions with which human beings communicate with one another by means of habitually used oral auditory arbitrary symbols''. In this definition there are some points such as :[1] Language is human's institution, [2] Language is vocal (sound) symbols by means of which a social group co-operates,Lyons (1942:5). [3] Language is arbitrary system and [4] Language is spoken. Spoken language can be defined as the verbal record of communication act which becomes a good deal.Bolinger (1981) states that language has a system of phonemes, and formed from the distinctive sound features, the systems of morphemes and syntax.

In language we have a term that we called a dialect. The term dialect in sociolinguisticsis used to describe the speech characteristics of a region (regional dialect) or of a group of people defined by social or occupational characteristics rather than by region alone (social dialect). The reason is that language has a set of rules.

The rules of language can be seen in four aspects, covering phonology,morphology, sintax and semantics.There are many languages around the world including in Indonesia.

Indonesia is one of big countries in the worldthere are many regional languages, which are used by the people in a region to communicate among them. One of the languages spoken in East Nusa Tenggara province is Manggaraian Language which is used by Manggarainese of Manggarai Regency, West Manggarai Regency and East Manggarai regency.

Manggarai Language is used as a tool of communication in their daily life.There are four general dialects in this three regencies namely Manggarai dialect, West Manggarai dialect, East Manggarai dialect and S-H dialect.Plural marking system is a system toindicate, the plural form of a noun of Manggarai Language.

In this study the writer wants to describe about the plural marking system of Manggarai Language.

Based on the writer's experience, there are many Manggaraian people that do not know the plural marking system. In addition, many people of Manggaraian language still have difficulty to discover the plural marking system. So, in this research the writer tries to find out the plural marking system in Manggarai Language as possible the writer can final them. The examples are shown below.

1. *Kucing mengejar tikus.*

   pus dolong lawo.

   cat chase mouse.

   'The cat chased the mouse''.

2. Kucing inimengejar tikus ini.

pus ho'o dolong lawo ho'o.

Cat this   chase mouse this.

'This cat chased this mouse'.

3. Kucing – kucinginimengejar tikus-tikus ini.

pus so.o dolong lawo so'o.

Cat this Chase mouse this.

'**These cats chased these mice'.**

The topic of this research is "**Plural Marking System ofManggarai Language."**

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of this study, the writer formulates the problem statement in from of the following question.

1. What is the Plural Marking System of Manggarai Language?

1.3 Objective of the Study.

Objective of the study is actually the aims of what a study wants to find out. Based on the problem above the objective of the study is stated below.

1. To identify and describe the Plural Marking System of Manggarai Language.

1.4 Significant of the Study

In this study there are two general significances of the study: academic significance and pratical significance. The detail explanation follows.

1.4.1   Academic Significance

The result of this study can add the stock of linguistic theory, especially about theory of pluralisation of Manggarai Language. It can also become a scientific reference for the coming linguistic researchers, especially the local language researches.

1.4.2   Pratical Significance

It provides the linguistics knowledge and skill in how to conduct and report a linguistic research, especially the plural marking system of Manggarai language. The result of this study can increase the skills and knowledge of the writer in Manggarai Language, especially in its pluralisation system. This study also gives good information about the pluralisation to the Manggarai Language speakers.

1.5   Scope and Limitation.

This studyare many grammatical aspects that exist in Manggarai Language. The grammatical aspects of a language, including ML, include phonetics, phonology, semantics, morphology, and syntax(Fromkin,et al, 2012: 61-277). This study on morphology, especially plural marking system.

1.6   Defenition of Terms

In this study there are some important terms to be defined. It is intended to avoid misunderstanding to these terms and the study as a whole. The terms that need defining include pluralisation, system, and ManggaraiLanguage. They are discussed in detail below.

1.Plural Marking System.

Plural is grammatical form of a noun or verb which refers to more than one person or thing (Hornby, 1989:953). Mark means to indicate. Marking is the act of marking or indicating something (Hornby, 1989:762). System is group of things or parts working together as a whole (Hornby, 1989: 1305). Plural marking system is a system of indicating plural of a noun. In this study, plural marking system is a system of indicating plural of a noun of ManggaraiLanguage.

2. Manggarai Language.

Manggarai Language is one of the local languages in Flores Island. It is spoken by people living in Great Manggarai consisting of Manggarai Regency, West Manggarai Regency, and East Manggarai Regency.