

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

In our daily life, language is considered important because it has a great function as medium of communication among community members. All human daily activities are made possible by means of language.

However, each language is different from one another and has its own characteristics. The differences between languages encourage people coming from different languages background to know other language.

Based on social role of language, each society has its own language. Nida and Taber (1974:46) argue that each language has its own characteristics, such as word order, word building capacity, sentence patterns, etc. In addition, Nida and Taber say that to communicate effectively one must consider the nature of language.

Sikka district has 5 regional languages, namely Lio Language, Palue Language, Buton Language, Muhang Language, and Sikka Language. According to Fox and Lewis (1996) Sikka language is spoken by society in Sikka Regency is divided in three dialects: Sikka Dialect, Krowe Dialect and Tana Ai Dialect. There is no difference between Sikka Dialect and Krowe Dialect.

Parera (1987: 117) in his book about *Linguistik Edukasional* added an example about negative formation on Sikka Language. Nevertheless, the study about

negative sentence in Sikka Language has not been done. The writer considers that the phenomenon of negative sentence in Sikka Language is quite unique, so the writer decided to conduct this research. As a native speaker of Sikka Language, the writer noticed that there are some differences and similarities of Negative formation occurring in Sikka Language to be compared with English.

The syntactic theory is used to analyze syntactic rule. However, the pure linguistics leaves the questions as to (1) what are the negative formations in Sikka? (2) what are the similarities and differences of negative formations between Sikka and those of English?

Based on the discussion above, the writer would like to carry out a study under the title: **A Study on Negative Sentences in Sikka Language in Comparison with Those of English.**

1.2 Statement of the Problems

The topic of the study is specified into two problems. The problems are formulated in the following questions.

- 1) What are the negative formations in Sikka Language?
- 2) What are the similarities and differences of negative formations between Sikka Language and those of English?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

Objectives are actually the aims of doing the study. The objectives in detail are as follows.

- 1) To find out the negative formations in Sikka Language.
- 2) To find out the similarities and differences of negative formations between Sikka Language and those of English.

1.4 Significance of the Study

Significance of the study is the benefit gained from doing the study. The significances in detail are as follows.

- 1) The results of this study are expected to be useful for those who want to carry out further study on the other aspects of Sikka Language.
- 2) The result of this study can become the scientific referent base of attempting to perpetuate the Sikka Language.
- 3) The result of this study may give information to the teachers who teach English to the students with Sikka Language background.
- 4) The result of this study can become the material for related literature review for the linguistic study in the future.

1.5 Scope and Limitation of the Study

Like any other language, Sikka Language has many kinds of grammatical structures. One of them is negative sentences. The writer only focuses on the negative sentence of Sikka Language.

Sikka Language is divided into three dialects: Sikka Dialect, Sikka Krowe Dialect, and Tana 'Ai Dialect. In this study, the writer only focuses on Sikka Krowe Dialect. However, based on slight observation that the negative form in the three Sikka Dialect and Sikka Krowe Dialect is the same. So the finding and the conclusions of the study can be applied to the Sikka Dialect. (Fox and Lewis, 1996)

1.6 Definition of Terms

In this part, the writer would like to define some terms regarding this study. They are presented in detail below:

- 1) Negative sentence is a sentence that states that something is not true or incorrect.
- 2) Sikka Language is the language that used by the people of Sikka- East Flores.