

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

### A. The Background of the Study

Language is a tool of communication by human life. As a social human, it can only live among other people. People can get their needs if they have communicated everything they need, shared and expressed their minds, willing, ideas, feelings and information through language. The social member can only be united and work in harmony by the help of language, to have good communication people have some rules or ethnic. The ethnic in language used is known as language politeness.

Language politeness is one of language features which should include in communication. Language politeness is related to good conduct use in language use, therefore will make the communication work better, (Holmes: 268). We adapt our talk to suit our audience and talk differently to children, customers and colleagues. We use language differently in formal and casual context. A polite person makes others feel comfortable. We will be polite when we address one another. Addressing is to call someone a particular name or title when we speak to them. Putting somebody in his proper position and states is to address him/her as what he/she is according to his/her social status and this will make everyone feel comfortably pleased and appreciated. It is difficult to learn because it involves understanding not just the language, but also the social and cultural values of the community. Different people who have just met must call or address each other politely until they get to know each other's heart well.

This politeness will be applied in every language to make the interaction be better each other. Based on the scope of using, language can be classified as international language; national language, and local language. In North Sumatera, local languages can be divided into some languages, for example: Toba Batak language, Simalungun language, Karonese language, Pak-Pak Dairi language (Sibarani, 1997:1). Toba Batak Language as a part of the local language spoken by Toba ethnic society, they use this language in their daily interactions and it has its own linguistic items or elements one of which is the politeness in addressing will select to become the topic of this work. Culture has significant factor in politeness. Culture controls the ways of speaking and life of the Toba Batak society. Different tribes have different way to say something. It is based on the hearer's culture and context. For example, in Toba Batak tribe, the speakers have to reply a question by using "ninna hamu". This phrase makes the utterance more polite. While other cultures do not have it or may use different way. That's why; the way people do communication is different from another. It depends on its culture. Each culture influences the way its people talking as language is a part of culture.

Batak Toba language politeness linguistic usually using of address. This study will find the politeness based addressing term in Batak Toba; ho/ hamu, kinship form, family name (marga). Erico (2009) finds that the using pronouns "ho and hamu (you)" as the rule of speaking politely. He shows in his research that Ho and Hamu as polite address when we talk to other based the context of relation with the speaker. For example; this conversation took in Hutaraja (a

village in Tarutung Tapanuli Utara) a teenager asked his friend when they met on the way. He asked, “tudia ho nantuari”? (where did you go yesterday?). It is positive politeness because in this case they have an intimate relation each other. Hamu means (you as singular, you as plural) usually using when someone met unknown or non-intimate person, so he show his respect by using hamu. For example; ai nungnga sahat be hamu hape! In this case, hamu means one person and it is called negative politeness by using hamu to show the respect.

He also found that the kinship citation in the politeness linguistic interactions. Kinship means family relation (mother, father, grandfather, etc). For example; “andigan halak naboru mulak”? (when will you back?). Naboru means our father’s sister. It is called negative politeness because in this context the speaker non-intimate relation so he using halak naboru to addressed.

And the family name (marga) it is more polite to call the family name (marga) than the hearer’s name (except for children). When someone said ‘barat beta marminggu’ (let’s go to church) it’s positive politeness, because they have a close relation and it will be negative politeness when someone asked a person which has no close relation with him, so he will say ‘lae barat beta marminggu’ he respect him by added lae before his family name.

Thus, the politeness addressing will be seen from the context of our relation with the speaker.

Nowadays, people not really care anymore about politeness, especially the teenagers. Menyuk and Brisk (2005) state that the teenagers are usually aged 12 or 13 years old to 17 or 18 years. The Toba Batak teenagers have different ways of

speaking. They think that they are intelligent and able to wade through this life. However, the bad behavior does not something we are born with. It's because influenced by the globalization which is make the life style has change. The politeness and behavior itself decrease in daily life especially in addressing.

In this research the writer will study language politeness in addressing terms in Toba Batak ethnic group exactly in Hutaraja Kecamatan Sipoholon Tapanuli Utara. People in that village of Hutaraja still native Toba Batak Speaker. The focuses of this study are the conversations from the teenagers will select randomly. The daily interaction that will be observed includes are interaction in and out of family.

## **B. The Problems of the Study**

The problems of the study are formulated as follows:

1. How are addressing terms used by Toba Batak teenagers?
2. What types of politeness by using addressing terms in Toba Batak teenagers?

## **C. The Objectives of the Study**

Based on the problems above the objectives of the study are:

1. to find out the using addressing terms of Toba Batak teenagers.
2. to describe the types of politeness addressing terms in Toba Batak teenagers.

#### **D. The Scope of the Study**

This work will describe the politeness in addressing in Toba Batak teenagers. To avoid an overlapping and misleading discussion, the writer will focus on politeness addressing used in Toba Batak ethnic group in Hutaraja Kecamatan Sipoholon Tapanuli Utara from the daily interaction in and out of family.

#### **E. The Significance of the Study**

The findings of this study are expected to be useful and relevant theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the research findings are expected to enrich the theories of linguistic politeness in addressing terms, especially for Batak Toba teenagers. Finding of this study will be useful to provide the information of what politeness in addressing terms used by teenagers. Practically, it will give better understanding and insight of how politeness is related to the aspect of pragmatic study. Hopefully it is useful for teachers and lecturers of sociolinguistics to apply the politeness in addressing terms specifically to sociolinguistics students either University or high school which occur in daily conversation.