

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Study

Indonesia is the fourth largest country in the world with a population on 2018 almost reaches 270 million people spread over 34 provinces with using more than 700 local languages still surviving. According to the number of speakers, the local languages most widely used are Javanese, Malay-Indonesian, Sundanese, Madurese, Bataknese, Minangkabaunese, Bugisnese, Acehnese, Balinese and Banjarese.

The number of diversity created in Indonesia by various factors does not make people divided and separated, through communication using official language of Indonesian that is Bahasa Indonesia they can still be united. Local and official languages become the main communication media of Indonesian society in daily activities, sometimes a speaker does mixing to make the other person understand what they want to inform.

North Sumatra, a province is well known with Batak tribes which divided into 6 parts spread in various regions also faces same things. Historical differences, geographical location of residence, cultures mixing with other tribe cause the 6 sub-tribes of Batak have different language whether in phonology (pronunciation), morphology (structure) and semantics (language meaning).

People living in Galang, a city in Deli Serdang district, have a majority of the population who come from the Batak tribe, and if carefully observed through the use of language in daily activities such as economic, social, and religious, the population of Simalungun tribe with their Simalungun language is the most settled in this area.

The activity of using language is transmitted to the next generation, parent teach the children how to speak Simalungun language since they can babbling word, but in the school they learn Foreign Languages such as English and when playing with friends, they use Bahasa Indonesia.

The habit of using local language (Simalungun) since early stage can led Problem of *language choice* when speakers (People in Galang City) meet other people who do not know their local language, or even speakers do *code mixing* between Bahasa Indonesia and Simalungun language when get involve in conversation with others who only know little of these two languages, it can cause *language shift* so that *language maintenance* is difficult to accomplish. The existence of the tendency to use Simalungun language and Bahasa Indonesia improper and inappropriate will result in fading level of politeness.

There are several ways Simalungun communities in Galang City do to maintain Simalungun language. First is held The Night Culture event yearly named "*Marsombuh Sihol*". This activity features Simalungun songs and artists such as Jhon Eliaman Saragih and Jhon Effendi Purba, Simalungun Dances such as *Huda-huda* or *Toping-Toping* Dance, serving

Simalungun food like *Ikan Mas Arsik* and *Manuk na binatur*, and during the show all participant certainly use Simalungun Language.

Second, people from Simalungun community maintain the language even though they do not live in this area for a while. Some people from Galang city who are able to speak Simalungun language has spread to several areas outside the city even abroad to continue education or looking for a job. When they return to Galang city, they use Simalungun Language again as they did before.

People who have good attitude are those who can accept and appreciate other cultures and languages without forgetting their origin. This can be good value in the presence of other people or countries when knowing the local language in Indonesia can't be extinct or lost because there are still many speakers who care to use. Politeness is one of good attitude, in using language it is very important because be the characteristics of one's personality.

One aspect to measure the politeness of language is using of pronouns. Bahasa Indonesia and local languages such as Simalungun language have pronouns. This serves to avoid misunderstanding due to mis-use of pronouns that are inconsistent with the etiquette and polite manners of the speakers. Pronouns in local language such as Simalungun language are more than the prescribed Indonesian standard; it depends on the area of usage and response received by the other person.

The following types of personal pronouns here are the most use in conversation and as the depiction of phenomena that occur in daily life of Simalungun people in Galang City:

Ho 'kamu' (You)

Ham 'kamu' (You)

Hanima 'kalian' (You)

Nassiam 'kalian' (You)

These pronouns have different functions, but sometimes have the same position. For example, pronouns ho (you) and ham (you) is use by a speaker when the other person is equal or younger than the speaker, but ham (you) also use for the person older than the speaker. Pronouns Hanima (you) use by speaker when the group of people is younger, while Nassiam (you) use for the group of people older than speaker. The use of Pronouns in terms of sociolinguistics is adjusted to four parameters, namely Gender, Age, situation, and familiarity.

(1) Ho domma makan siang (Have you eaten already)

(2) Ham Kelas berapa sekarang? (What grade are you now?)

(3) Hanima hu gerejanya? (Are you going to the church?)

(4) Nassiam datang kepesta itu? (Do you come to that party?)

The use of pronouns in the Simalungun language mixed with sentences in Bahasa Indonesia does not impact politeness level of a speaker if directed to the appropriate speaker, but instead a speaker is considered unaware of custom and ethics in social life if the use of

pronouns is misdirected. This is what often found in the middle of conversations of Galang city society some parameters such as Gender, Age, Situation, and familiarity are very influential in this regard.

The example of age parameters, if a child saying sentences number one with pronouns *Ho* and number three with pronouns *Hanima* to the older person it is considered rude, but if the sentence is directed to a younger person, it is considered very polite, while if a parent saying sentences number two with pronouns *Ham* number four with pronouns *Nassiam* to a children it is consider polite but actually seldom to find out in the conversation. While for Gender parameters, through those four sentences even though it is for different and similar gender usually people use pronoun *Ham* and *Nassiam*.

The using of pronouns to reveal politeness of languages in a society or a tribe had been widely conducted by some researchers. Even though the studies focus on politeness in using Simalungunese personal subject pronouns had not been conducted yet by previous researcher, there were some writers who brought up politeness and pronouns as their central issues, and their works influenced and become guidance for this research.

Firdausi (2014) in her thesis entitled *An Analysis on Students' Errors in Using Personal Pronouns* try to find out frequency of occurrence, type of errors made by the students and also to identify kinds of personal pronouns that the students made in using subject and object pronoun. The result of the error analysis process showed that students

committed error into four types: omission, addition, selection, and ordering. From the frequency of each error types, selection was the error which most frequently produced by the students.

The result of a research by Arapah (2017) politeness in using personal subject pronouns of Banjarese and American English shows both of that are based on singular and plural distinction, Banjarese personal pronouns can indicate the social status or the relation of the speaker and other persons in the discourse. Result also show when people used the 3rd level of politeness of Banjarese, it does not mean that they are impolite. It happens when they feel that they are close enough to the interlocutors.

The research result of Adhani (2014) on Analisis Penggunaan Pronomina Persona sebagai Penyapa dan Pengacu indicated that the factors influencing the use of personal pronoun to address and to refer to in 10 communicative acts include (a) social environment, (b) local language, and (c) national culture concerning courtesy, and the degrees of intimacy between the speaker and the listener comprise four- (a) intimate, (b) respectful, (c) neutral, and (d) respectful-intimate.

Mahmud (2013) in the research entitled *The Roles of Social Status, Age, Gender, Familiarity, and Situation in Being Polite for Bugis Society*, shows that there is a different practice of being polite influenced by those above factors. In rural area, social status differences become the most important factor whereas in urban area, gender differences can become the higher priority in encoding their politeness. The discussion also shows

some strategies used by Bugis people to encode their politeness are use of pronouns, address terms, and language choices either Bugis or Indonesia.

A journal conducted by Rambe (2016) Politeness in Batak Mandailing Movie. The findings say that Positive Politeness is to show the closeness, intimacy, and rapport (friendly relationship) between speaker and hearer. It supports the conversation between people run well, and it is used to maintain the social value of community and good manners.

The study is designed to examine about politeness in using Simalungunese personal subject pronouns by people in Galang City. Even though there are so many topics of research can appear related to the languages and community, but politeness of language and the using of personal subject pronouns have big influence to the improvement of this area, that lead this research to be done in good way.

1.2 The Problems of Study

The research questions of the study are limited to these areas:

1. What types of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns are mostly used by people in Galang City?
2. How do people in Galang City use Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns based on four parameters to show the level of politeness?
3. Why Simalungunese in Galang city need to use Personal Subject Pronouns in daily life?

1.3 The Objectives of Study

In this research, writer has some purposes to answer the problems of the study, they are:

1. To reveal and explain what types of Personal Subject Pronouns mostly used by people in Galang City.
2. To explain how people in Galang City use Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns based on four parameters to show the level of politeness.
3. To reveal and explain the reason why Simalungunese in Galang City need to use Personal Subject Pronouns in daily life.

1.4 The Scope of Study

This research just examines and analyzes types of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns, they are: first, second, and the third to know what types, the way of using, and reason to use Personal Subject Pronouns in daily life people in Galang city, Kecamatan Galang, Kabupaten Deli Serdang.

1.5 The Significance of Study

1.5.1 Theoretically

1. As a reference and suggestion to the researcher of Simalungunese.
2. As a guidance for someone who want to know about used of Simalungunese Personal Subject Pronouns.

1.5.2 Practically

1. As a research comparison about Personal Subject Pronouns with other languages.
2. As guidance for every level of education department with subject of study Simalungunese with topic discuss is Personal Subject Pronouns.