CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of the Study

Language obviously a means of communication is inevitable in our lives. Language, furthermore, is recognized as the most perfect means of communication. Each language provides a system of concepts which human beings to interpret reality. Languages are also fundamental in the generation and transmission of values and express a differentiated ethical sensibility. The existence of language in society cannot be separated from culture as product of human culture. Without a language, the society cannot be formed and there will be no community that named Acehnese.

Acehnese language as one of hundreds of Indonesian vernacular is an Austronesian language spoken on Aceh province of the west of Sumatra island. Acehnese is spoken in four dialects, namely *Pase Dialect, Pidie Dialect, Kuta Raja Dialect,* and *West Dialect.* Whereas *Pase* Dialect is used in North Aceh, Lhokseumawe, Bireuen, East Aceh, Langsa, and each people of Aceh Tamiang; *Pidie* Dialect is used in Pidie Jaya and Pidie; *Kuta Raja* Dialect is used in Greater Aceh, Banda Aceh, and Sabang; and the last one is *West* Dialect which used in West Aceh, Aceh Jaya, Southwest Aceh, and South Aceh, Asyik (1987:1).

Language is a great part of human life which is characterized as a dynamic part of human that tend to change. According to Guy (1989:2) that the various types of linguistic change is distinguished between structural effects of the

different types and the different social circumstances surrounding them. The change in language is an environment that is sure to happen in a particular language community. Actually, it can occur due to various factors influence the language factors both internally and external factors. The influence of internal factors usually called individual factors that are influenced by the linguistic itself, psychology, and intergeneration factor, the individual factors deal with the language change that resulted from entire generation of speaker acquisition. On the other hand, external factors are influenced by non-linguistic factors. For example non-linguistic factors are social factors and contextual or situational factors. Where social factors are contact between speakers of different varieties due to conquest, migration and culture, education, economic, and religion. The social contact of language change does not only include the type of input the environmental but also the mechanism and rates of input processing. The mechanism is concerned with the techniques and method of input provided to the language speakers, whereas rates deal with the amount of input itself.

The process of change in language is a sketch about the dynamics caused various factors that influence immediately. As traditional views of language change, when the speakers of a language are in contact with neighbours who speak in different language, the speakers will borrow language items from outside sources language. However, there is not only in borrowing words but also possibility in the form of phonology, semantic and sometimes syntactical, morphological and pragmatic.

The Acehnese has borrowed a large number of loanwords from other languages such as *sikin* 'knife' from Arabic, *canca* 'spoon' from Chinese, *tre* 'try' from European, and *misee* 'moustache' from Hindi.

The language can be change in all domains of language and each languages in the world tends to change which might be in the forms of lexical, morphological, syntactical, semantic, spelling, and pragmatic changes. In reality, one of the most obvious kinds of change in language is the appearance of lexical change. The lexical can be in forms of lexical loss as the phenomenon in which a particular lexicon disappears, creation of new lexical item, semantic change or shifting meaning in lexical, and phonological change which is the process change of sounds. Lexical change is manifested in every single of lexical classes of a language, such as a noun, verb, adjective and adverb. A case of lexical change of *Pase* dialect is the word *"Ie Beuen"* (*Tsunami* disaster) and other examples *"Sabah"* (thanks), *"gari"* (cycle), etc. it is regarded one lexical loss of *Pase* dialect because it is not practiced anymore, or *lilin* (candle) in Indonesian becomes *lilen* in *Pase* dialect of Acehnese which has change in phonological and lexical creation.

Based on preliminary data above, it is feasible to assert that lexical change contains: 1) Types of lexical change as a change realized in lexicons, which might be loss, creation, change of meaning, and phonology, 2) Patterns of lexical change which refers the ways on how the change it takes place, and 3) Reason of lexical change as the completely influential factors of lexical change.

In the process of language change in a community of speakers is highly influenced by elements of language contact. Contact-induced language change contributes to the unity of linguistic variation and process variation that contribute to the change in language. In other word, the change of language in the speech community is influenced by social contact such as migration, bilingualism, religion, education, and cultural environment in community of speakers.

In reality, it is tendency that to change of *Pase* dialect when speakers are more educated, this has been proved by fact is that role of *Pase* dialect used in educational is not same at home. Constantly, this is one of root from the empirical evidence that the medium of teaching and learning in *Pase* is Indonesian. Consequently, the students' attitudes towards *Pase* dialect of Acehnese eventually decreases which automatically makes Indonesian dominantly is used in their day life. Besides that, religion as a particular system of faith and worship based on the speakers' beliefs serves as another influence of *Pase* dialect of Acehnese existence and maintenance as in *Pase* dialect of Acehnese loanwords from Arabic such as *qanun, hareum, haleue, hukom* etc. through this phenomenon the existence and maintenance of *Pase* dialect are obvious.

The cultural environment situation in social condition is where the language speakers' activities take place, the increasingly modern influence nowadays is regarded as factor to existence and maintenance of *Pase* dialect. The fashionable and innovative devices and needs bridge the *Pase* dialect of Acehnese user's attention to lexical modernization. Furthermore, according to Durie (1985:7) that standard Acehnese comes from the North Aceh scholars Budiman

Sulaiman (1977, 1978, 1979) and Abdul Gani Asyik (1972, 1982). In other word, the standard Acehnese comes from *Pase* dialect. In other hand, *Pase* dialect is the common dialect and the completely structure of language items of Acehnese language than other dialect as Kuta Raja dialect, Aceh Barat dialect, and Pidie dialect (Durie1985:7).

In accordance with the reason above, the writer interests to investigate the change of lexical influenced by social contact which occurs in *Pase* dialect of Aceh.

1.2 The Problems of the Study

In accordance with the context given above, the statements of the research problems which are investigated in this study are as the following:

1) What lexical change has occurred in the *Pase* dialect with reference to social contact?

2) How does the lexical change occur in the *Pase* dialect?

3) Why does the lexical change tend to occur in the ways they are?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In accordance with the problem above, the objectives of this study are:

1) to investigate lexical change in the *Pase* dialect,

2) to describe the patterns of lexical change with reference to social contact of *Pase* dialect, and

3) to explain the reasons of lexical change of *Pase* dialect.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

The researcher's scope of this study is attempts to investigate the language change of *Pase* dialect, particularly to the lexical change which is influenced by social contact. More specific, it is an attempt to provide an objective and explanative description of kinds of lexical change with reference to social contact among the speakers of *Pase* dialect.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to have both theoretical and practical contributions. Theoretically, this research is beneficial to help the researcher to produce relevant and valid knowledge for them who will conduct further research in the field of language changes.

Practically, the findings of this research would be beneficial for language planning and policy of the government which is urgently useful for *Pase* dialect maintenance in the future.