CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 The Background of Study

William Shakespear ever said in his famous literature, Romeo and Juliet, "... what‟s in a name?". It looks like that a name is just an ordinary thing but it also can be as an important thing to consider. A name can be defined as a word of a group of word to identify and call people, animal, thing and place (Robert and Henry, 1990:8). A name is can be said as a self-identity of everyone. Names carry a lot of information. Kasof (1993) states that they can be diagnostic of social categories such as race, ethnicity, gender, and class; while Mehrabian & Piercy (1993) states that they can influence impression formation on a range of attributes including success, warmth, morality, popularity, cheerfulness, and masculinity–femininity. Names are generally viewed as cultural words or words that refer to elements deeply rooted in the culture of a speech community. Yet, the study of proper names within the framework of cultural literacy has not received much attention in the body of linguistic research.

Personal identifying names are found in every known culture, and they often pass from one language to another. Naming is in reality a process of labeling persons or places whereby some meanings or concepts are poured into a linguistic form permissible by the phonological, morphological as well as the semantic rules of a given language system. The act of naming whose purpose is to identify and modify the referent relies heavily, as we believe, on borrowing in that the

characteristics of a physical object and/or certain abstract concepts representing values and virtues are borrowed. It is true that different cultures may reflect varied views of the world of experiences; yet, similar conceptualizations of both the physical as well as the cultural world are still available cross-culturally and linguistically.

Java is one of ethnic groups in Indonesia which has its own tradition in giving name to their children. Javanese have various systems for naming. Many Javanese have only one name and no surname. Name giving is an important process for some people. In Javanese, for instance, a name is an important part of his/her life. Every name which is used by a Javanese should have a meaning behind it. A name is given by following some kind of rules. Koentjaraningrat (1984:105) stated that name giving for a Javanese depends on the social status. Wibowo (2001:45) said that a name can be divided into one word; such as *Welasono*, two words; such as *Triwati Rahayu*, three words; such as *Teguh Jaya Santoso*. A name also can convey a meaning which the parents wish to, for instance a man who is given a name *'Slamet'*. The word *Slamet* means safe or be far away from the dangerous thing. Through the name there is a wish that the man can be safe and get bless from God as long as he"s alive. Uhlenbeck (1982:372) stated that there are some patterns in giving a name in Java tradition, such a name is ended by –em/–en with a-i-e formulation, such as *Sarijem*. Another pattern, for example, a name is ended by –i to show that the owner of the name is a woman and a name is ended by –a/–o to show that the owner of the name is a man, for example: *Suwarno-Suwarni*.

From that view above, it means that in giving the name, Javanese follow some rules and they also insert their wishes through the name for their children. Their wishes are manifestated through the meaning of their children name. Javanese also give their children"s name in one, two or three words. Javanese also give their children name by looking at their social status, such as using *Roro*, *Raden* and so on.

There are some studies had discussed about the name giving in Java tradition and also its own meaning. Saddhono and Sahid (2012) found that the development of personal naming practice, ideas, cultural taste, and various other changes which are taking place in the Javanese society from one era to another. Astri (2014) found that the semiotic meaning of Java children"s name showed the parents" wish. She stated that Java society in Bandar Khalifah used various ideology in giving their children"s name such as wish, the day and month of birth, important occasions and so on.

Based on the previous studies above, a different phenomena was found in the way of Javanese giving name to their children. It was found that Javanese doesn"t follow the same way in this day. The parents" names are in Java words but the children"s names aren"t in Java words as well, for instance the father"s name is *Jaya* which means glory while the daughter"s name is *Rizka* which isn"t used the Java word. Another case is the parents" form name is ended by –em/–en with a-i-e formulation such as *Raminten*, but the son"s name isn"t in the same form like that, her son"s name is *Rudi*. It seems that there is development of the form and meaning of the name in as a result of modernization in Kelurahan Tanjung

Mulia. The researcher found a child"s name which is influenced by western and Islamic name, namely *Oscar Kristanto*, *Muhammad Owen Eka* and *Willy Rizky Danianto*. It was also found from the girls" name, like *Chelsy* Rahayu, *Sabila Nurul Imanda* and *Marsha Kirana*. This preliminary data is supported by a previous study which was done by Sahid (2013) who stated that Javanese personal names in the north coastal region of Java have undergone various developments in form, meaning, and function along with the developments that have taken place during different eras of human civilization.

It is also found that most of Java teenager isn"t given a name by following Java tradition. Their parents and grandparents don"t keep maintaining to give a name by using Java tradition. The cases above shows that there are shifts and changes in form, meaning, and function of Javanese names from one era to another. It is interested to know the source of names that influence the development of Javanese names up to present time. The researcher found a name which is influenceed from the abbreviation of her parents name and it became *Rasya* which consists of some last letters of her parents" name (*Laras* and *Surya*). This kind of name giving shows a new innovation in order to show the modern names development.

Relating to the cases, the study focuses on three points, (1) The source of names that affect the modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia, (2) The forms of modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia, and (3) The reasons of name choice that the Javanese parents choose for their children.

1.2 The Problems of Study

Based on the background of the research, the problems of the research are formulated as the following:

1. What source of names do affect the modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia?

2. How are the forms of modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia?

3. Why do Javanese parents choose their children"s name as the way they do?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

In relation to the problems of the study, the objectives of the study are:

1. to determine the source of names that affect the modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia,

2. to describe the form of modernization of Javanese personal names in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia, and

3. to explain the reasons of name choice that the Javanese parents choose their children"s name.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

This study will be focused on the discussion of the source of names of Javanese modern names, the forms of modernization of Javanese personal names and the reasons of name choice in Kelurahan Tanjung Mulia. The personal names are obtained from the children"s names who have both of Java parents.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

Findings of the study are expected to be useful and relevant theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the findings of the study are expected to justify or to refuse theories of modernization of Javanese personal name. In addition, the findings are expected to add more horizons in language planning issues.

Practically, the findings are expected to make modern Javanese names are a medium for discovering the „living‟ thoughts and feelings of Javanese people as they continue to move dynamically up to this time. In addition, the findings are relevant to language planners in efforts to develop the modernization of Javanese personal names.