

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. Background

The existence of language as a means of communication in human life plays a very important role. Where the language holds the role as the connector between humans. Because the role is very important, language is a means of developing an area and as a means to bring change.

Language development was strongly influenced by the consistency in the used of native speakers of the language in everyday life. However this was poorly understood by speakers of the language, thus shifting of a language may occur. This happens almost in every era of the world's languages, especially local languages, where many regional languages were ultimately lost and can no longer be found because of the number of speakers were declining and eventually destroyed languages. It also occurs in the language Batak Toba, where speakers were increasingly reduced so that the impact is worrisome.

The phenomenon of the decrease in Batak Toba language was influenced by many factors. Holmes (2001: 52-61) stated that there were several factors that support language shift. He describes that the factors contributing to the language shift such as migration, social and economic Factors, Demographic factor, Political Factors, attitudes and Value.

Batak Toba language as the daily language of Tobanese in Tarutung is replaced by new language Indonesian Language and also the presence of the

foreign cultures that shifts the used of regional languages. It can be found in areas located in North Sumatra one of them is Huta Toruan VII in Tarutung.

In Huta Toruan VII Batak Toba language used was starting to be shifted by Tobanese into Bahasa Indonesia.

It can be seen from the interaction in the residents area where the native speaker of Batak Toba language experienced the language shift and language switch between Batak Toba Language into Indonesian language.

From the survey, the researcher has done some records of the representation of language shift among the speaker of Tobanese in tarutung Huta Toruan VII:

Example 1 ;

A: *Nantulang, sadia sada Fanta on?*

Aunty, how much is this Fanta ?

B: *Nadia dek? yang kaleng atau botol?*

Which one boy? The bottle one or tin?

A: *Botol*

Bottle

B: *Empat ribu.*

Four thousands

A: *Dua ya nantulang sama mancis satu. Mauliate nantulang.*

Aunty, i will take two and one match. Thank you.

VI : vernacular language

NI : new language

From the conversation above, the A and the B firstly used VL (Batak Toba Language) but after the A use the NL (Indonesian Language) in the next question, the B also reply with the new language. From the example above, it shows that the language shift belong to the third process (Equal Bilingual) where both of the speakers use mother tongue and the new language in a same level.

Example 2:

A: *Amang, aha do sahit hu?*

Doctor, what is my disease?

B: *Gejala demam berdarah. Tapi masih gejalanya naboru,*

It was a symptoms of dengue fever, but it is still only a symptoms Mam.

A: *Ai sahit aha i amang? Naung parah do?*

what is it? a serious disease?

B: *Naboru tenang dulu, tunggu kita cek dulu.*

Dont worry mam, first let us check it up.

A: *Maksudnya dokter aku ini harus dirawat di rumah sakit dulu?*

Doctor means that i must be treated for several days in the hospital?

B: *Ia naboru, supaya penyakitnya tidak bertambah parah.*

Yes mam, so that the disease is not getting worse

A: *Tak apalah, yang penting saya bisa sehat*

Never mind, my healthyness is the most important.

In te second example, the language shift that happened in tarutung was the example of language shift process of Equal bilingual and Down Bilingual (New Language) where in the conversation, the patient firstly used Toba language and in some sentences at the end of the conversation she used Indonesian language. The patient used the two language equally, while the doctor was experienced Down Bilingual (new language), although he understand the Toba language but consistently he used Indonesian language from the beginning until the end of the conversation. It can bee seen when the doctor calling the patient by Toba language style. Here the doctor dominantly used new language expect on speech and the researcher can also found the uses of pragmatic in the conversation where the patient or te doctor used an implied meaning of calling their name. Generally, in all the region a doctor must called the patient pak or bu (Mr or Miss) but here the doctor use Batak Toba style, 'bu' is replaced by Naboru and so with the patient she called the doctor Amang (a Tobanese style when calling someone else such

as for oldman, doctor, father, priest and many others) . The conversations conclude that both of them experienced different level of language shift although they lived in the same area.

The people in tarutung also must be a multilingual, for instance, a member of a minority group can shop, go to the doctor and access other services by using more than one language depends on what language is used in the situation. Additionally, resistance to language shift tends to last longer in rural than in urban areas. This was explained by the fact that rural groups are isolated from cities where majority language prevails, and they can meet most of their social needs using their ethnic (minority) language. But now we can not deny that the bilingualism and the language shift have happened to the native speakers of some vernaculars in some region or areas that isolated from cities. As the case of language shift and bilingualism that happen in Huta Toruan VII Tarutung.

The researcher has done a preliminary study as a rehearsal of the main survey to avoid some errors . When analysing the preliminary study, the researcher found some errors in the questionnaire but beside of it the researcher also found that there were six person of fifteen Tobanese that experienced language shift.

The phenomenon of language shift make us losing some words or even losing our mother tongue because Indonesian language will be dominated the use of language that is used in the society especially in the isolated area. Chaer (2004:146) says that many linguists of Indonesia predict that in 20 years later, some languages will change or even lose because the origin native disregard using their language. He also states that the language is varied, means even if a language

has rules or patterns that are similar, but because it is used by the heterogeneous speakers of social background and habits are different, then the language becomes diverse, in order phonological, morphological, syntactic, semantic, and lexicon.

Phenomenon also found in some research that already held by some researchers, first is Moradi (2015) that investigates the language shift that is happened in Iran. In this study, he found that the majority of people attributed language shift to reasons such as the belief in better understanding of educational materials in school as well as achieving fluency in Persian, the role of Persian as the lingua franca for all Iranian ethnics, and the use of Persian in expanded domains. Moreover, the findings maintained that the language shift is not confined to a particular social class but is pervasive among all members of the society.

Dweik (2015) whose study focused on what caused the language shift from Syriac into Arabic. He found that the used of Syriac was still minimally used in certain key domains such as at home with family members and at church. This shift was the result of historical, economic, demographic, linguistic and generational distance. And then Michieka (2012) who focused on the process of language shift. The shift is not necessarily towards English. In fact, She Found Most young people, especially those raised in urban areas, have grown up in families where Kiswahili or a code mixing between Kiswahili and English, is the main home language. Naturally then, these young people do not just prefer Kiswahili, but have not developed enough proficiency in the indigenous languages to allow for interpersonal usage.

The used of majority language can makes the minority losing some informations and words especially the Toba Batak Langage diffrrent dialects of a community to others community depends on its region, such like Silidung dialect, Dairi dialect and ect.. It was hard to the people in some areas in Tarutung especially in Huta Toruan VII confronting the globalization era. Teens and adults starts shifting Toba language into Bahasa Indonesia and its more dominant on teenagers who are active on social media.

Theoretically Willemyn (1997:64) pointed out that a language can survive for a long time. Subsequent extra linguistic factors, though, may be the prelude to almost complete extinction. Conscious discrimination through linguistic legislation was one of them. Another was growing industrialization and a considerable internal migration (in both directions) which annihilates the linguistic homogeneity of the region and, consequently, the used ability of the minority language. 'Social integration' took care of the rest: mastery and usage of the majority language appear to be so indispensable for upward social mobility (and social life in general) that they easily overcome solidarity factors such as cultural and linguistic loyalty.

Thus, grounded on the background of the study, it was necessary analyzed, because of the representation of Toba language among the native speakers in Huta Toruan VII has been endangered their Vernacular as one of the icons of Indonesian languages.

B. The Problem of The Study

Based on the background of the study, the problems of this study were:

1. What were the factors of language shift among the speakers of Toba Language of Tarutung?
2. What was the dominant factor of language shift among the Tobanese people of Tarutung?
3. How language shift was represented among the speakers of Toba Language of Huta Toruan VII, Tarutung?

C. The Objective of The Study

Based on the problems, this study was aimed:

1. To find out the factors of language shift among the speakers of Toba Language of Tarutung.
2. To identify the dominant factor of language shift among the speakers of Toba Language of Tarutung.
3. To describe the representation of language shift among the speakers of Toba Language of Tarutung.

D. The Scope of The Study

This study focuses on the process of language shift among the Tobanese people of Tarutung while the transcript is taken by the recorded utterances among the native speakers of Toba language who live in Tarutung (Huta Toruan VII). The subject of this study were 30 person in the range age of 17-40 years old while

they are being separated into two groups; (1) teenager; 17-25 years old and (2) adult; 26-40 years old.

E. The Significance of The Study

Based on the objective of this study expected to be useful whether it is theoretically or practically.

Theoretically, this study was expected to enhance the knowledge about language shift and to give a deeper understanding about it.

Practically, this study was expected to be useful for:

1. The students of English Literature Department of State University of Medan who were interested to practically about language shift, this study is expected to be useful as the additional source and reference
2. The readers experience that will give them a deeper understanding about the language shift theory itself and to see how it is represented among the society of Tobanese in Tarutung.