

## CHAPTER I

### INTRODUCTION

#### A. The Background of the Study

The existence of language in human civilization has made the language itself have a very significant role especially in communication. When people do communication, it is language which delivers what they intend to say as well as the responses conveyed by the interlocutors. Language can be simply called as a means of communication and self-expression. In its use, a large number of languages in the world certainly raises a question of how a person using a certain language can communicate fluently to the one using a different language from him. When this problem obstructs the communication, the term “translation” is one way which will effectively and efficiently solve this communication problem. Larson (1984:3) states that translation consists of transferring the meaning of the source language into the receptor language. In line with the preceding statement, Catford (1965:20) defines translation as the replacement of textual material in one language (SL) by equivalent textual material in another language (TL).

Translation as a mediator between one language to another has a function to help a person understand, respond, and even talk fluently when communicating to the one using a different language. In this case, someone can be called as a qualified translator or interpreter when he is not only able to comprehend the concept of translation, but also able to apply it properly in interlingual communication either in oral form or in written form. Therefore, it needs to be

highlighted that becoming a translator is not an easy task since there must be some obstacles that obstruct the translator in doing translation activity.

One important point that should be paid attention to by a translator is the correlation between culture and language as proposed by Newmark (1988:94) who defines culture as the way of life and its manifestations that are peculiar to a community that uses a particular language as its means of expression. In addition, Nida (1964:91) states that words are fundamentally symbols for features of the culture. The two statements vividly show that language and culture have a very close relationship. The language used by a group of people will usually reflect their own culture since language is the product of culture and it will develop along with the culture of the society.

In connection with the fact that culture and language have a close linked system, a translator needs to be aware of the existence of cultural aspect in translation process. The difference of cultural concept between source language and target language makes the translator a bit harder to find the equivalent in the target language to transfer cultural expression found in the source language. Therefore, the translator is demanded to comprehend and has a broad insight about the cultural concept either in source language or target language and also understand about the translation procedures especially in translating cultural expressions.

As one of phenomenon in translation, the writer was interested in making a study about the translation of cultural expressions in a novel. In translating a certain novel into another language, the translator will absolutely face the problem

of how to translate the cultural expressions found in the original novel into another language due to the difference of cultural concept between a source language and a target language. In this case, the English novel of “The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor” which is written by Robert Kirkman and translated into Indonesian by Maria Lubis will be the object of the study.

In the translation process of the novel from English into Indonesian, it can be found that the novel contains the cultural expression in the forms of words and phrases that definitely influence the translation process. For instance, the phrase “macramé bracelets” in the original novel is one of the cultural expression because this kind of bracelets is a typical accessory in USA. Macramé (*MAC-ruh-may*) is actually the art or craft of tying cordage into knots in such a way that they form a useful or decorative shape. This was a very popular craft in the 1970s in the USA that is now being revived in the form of jute jewelry and knotted purses. Therefore, the translator transferred this cultural expression by applying one of the translation procedures, i.e. functional equivalent (finding the neutral or general equivalent in the target language); thus “macramé bracelets” was translated as “*Gelang anyaman benang*”. Overall, the study would be designed to find, to classify, and to analyze the expressions as well as the translation procedures used to translate the cultural expressions in the novel based on the theory of Newmark. This kind of study is actually expected to show the quality of translated novel published in Indonesia.

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

The problems of the study were formulated in the following questions:

1. What types of the cultural expressions were found in the original and Indonesian version of *The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor*?
2. What translation procedures were used to translate the cultural expressions into the Indonesian version of *The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor*?

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

In relation to the problem of the study as stated above, the objectives of the study are:

1. To find out the types of the cultural expressions found in the original and Indonesian version of *The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor*
2. To find out and describe the translation procedures used to transfer the cultural expressions into the Indonesian version of *The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor*.

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

To avoid an overlapping and misleading discussion, the study would be focused on analyzing the cultural expressions found in the original and the Indonesian version of *The Walking Dead: Rise of the Governor*.

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

The study is expected to give valuable contribution theoretically and practically. Theoretically, the findings of the study are expected to contribute on the development of translation study, especially on how translation is applied in transferring cultural expressions in literary work, especially translated novel. Meanwhile, practically the findings of the study are supposed to be useful for the following people:

1. The translators may use this study as a reference to them in translating the English novel into the Indonesian version, so that they can produce the better quality of Indonesian literary works.
2. The students and readers can use the study as a guidance to learn about the translation of cultural expressions in literary works, especially translated novel.
3. The other reseachers can use the study as one of the relevant studies and guide them in making the translation of cultural expressions in literary works, especially novel.