

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

As we know, translation is becoming a popular thing in many sectors of life, such as: education, economy, entertainment, and many more. Translating books are one of the example of translation products which have assorted types and come from many sectors, for example: medical books, science books, novels, and many more. Translators play an important role to transfer the idea from the source language into the target language. In transferring the idea, translators need some strategies to face with a number of translation problems.

One of the translation problems is about cultural background of the text. This problem comes in translation because translation is a part of language and language is a part of culture. 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) state that 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. In translation, some words in the source language cannot be replaced into the target language as caused by the cultural background of those words. Those words are called by cultural words (Newmark, 1998: 95-103). The cultural words such as: traditional foods, local animal or plant names, and places will be hard to be translated into the target text. It is because the meaning for the cultural words is not available in the target language. The cultural word problems in translation mostly cause some failures of idea delivery in the target language.

The failure of transferring the cultural words to the target language causes some disadvantages for the target readers. One of the disadvantages is the cultural misunderstanding that happens when a wrong strategy is chosen in translating a cultural word into the target language. The target readers will not receive the same message as the message in the target text if the cultural misunderstanding is found in a translation project.

The researcher argues that the novel is good enough to be the project of the analysis because the cultural backgrounds of the source and target language are different. The researcher found a great number of cultural words at word to phrase level found from the novel, such as: the names of place, flora, and fauna that will

be the center of the analysis also the researcher will analyze how the procedures used by the translator in translating this novel.

The subject of analysis for this research is a novel entitled *The Years of the Voiceless*. It is a best seller novel by author named Okky Madasari and published by *Gramedia Pustaka Utama*. This novel becomes more popular after the originally of this novel was published. *Gramedia Pustaka Utama* is the publisher for the Indonesian version under the title is *Entrok* and English version *The Years of the Voiceless* and *Nurhayat Indriyatno Mohamed* is the translator who translated this novel from Indonesia into English language. This novel was first published in Bahasa Indonesia in 2010 with 288 pages, under the title *Entrok*, a Javanese word for bra. *Entrok* is also the title of one of the chapters in this book. And the English version of this novel is *The Years of the Voiceless* first published in Indonesia, in June 2013 with 264 pages.

In the process of translation the novel from Indonesian into English, it can be found that the novel contains the cultural expression in the forms of words or phrases that will influence the translation procedure. For example, the phrase “*Jun*” in the original novel is one of the cultural expression because this is a typical water container in Javanese culture. “*Jun*” is water container made from clay or in other word is *kendi*. This was very popular water container in the 1950s in the Java.

The translator transferred this cultural expression by applying one of the translation procedure, i.e. Functional Equivalent finding the neutral or general

equivalent in the target language). Thus, “*Jun*” was translated as pail of water made from plastic.

The novel told about life under militarism during the Indonesia’s New Order era. It also shows how people use their position of power as a tool to oppress people who do not have power. The word “Entrok” is from Jawa that mean Bra. There are two Javanese woman: Sumarni, a girl who grows into puberty in a village near the East Java city of Madiun in the early period of Indonesian independence, second is Rahayu as Sumarni’s daughter. It began when Sumarni lived with mother who was called "Simbok". Singget village was place where Sumarni and Simbok lived. Simbok worked as cassavas cutter in those people who sold cassavas in the ngranget market.

Some articles in the internet inform that many people have read this novel and they are really inspired by this novel story. Based on the data above, the writer will analyze *The Years of the Voiceless* novel by Okky Madasari using a Cultural Expression found in the novel and how the procedure used in translating the Indonesian into English version. Thus the writer will conduct a research entitled ***THE PROCEDURES IN TRANSLATING OF CULTURAL EXPRESSION IN THE NOVEL “THE YEARS OF THE VOICELESS” BY OKKY MADASARI.***

B. The Problem of the Study

Based on the background above there are some problems of the analysis which are discussed:

1. What are the cultural expressions found in the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*?
2. How are the procedures applied in translating the novel *The Years of the Voiceless*?

C. The Objective of the Study:

1. To find out the cultural expression found in the novel *The Years of the Voiceless* from English to Indonesian
2. To find out and describe how the translation procedures applied in translating the novel *The Years of the Voiceless* from English to Indonesian

D. The Scope of the Study

The scope of the study will be focused on two kinds. The researcher will analyzing the cultural expression found in the English version of Okky Madasari's novel *The Years of the Voiceless* and translated by Nurhayat Indriyatno Mohamed, and will be analyze based on *Newmark's* theory (1988). And the last is the researcher want to find out and describe how the procedure applied in translating this novel.

E. The Significance of the Study

The study is expected to be relevant and significant theoretically and practically. As the theoretically, the findings would give some contribution to

development of translation study, especially on how translation procedure applied in transferring cultural expressions in literary work, especially translated novel.

And as the practically, the findings of the study are supposed to be useful for the following people:

- 1) The translator may use this study as a reference to them in translating the novel into the target language. 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 expression in literary works, especially translated novel.
- 3) The other researcher can use the study as one of the relevant studies and guide them in making the translation of cultural expression in literary works, especially novel.