

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

A. The Background of the Study

Language is an important thing to learn because it has a major objective and role in human life. The main objective of language as a communication tool is used by everyone starting from the walking up, doing activity, and until going to sleep again. In general, all human activities always involve language as a means to interact among people. It can be concluded that language has close relationship and can't be separated from all of human's activities. A person can express ideas and thoughts convey the opinions and information through the use of a language, thus a language is a primary means of communication. According to Fuller and Wardaugh (2014), there are four possible relationships between language and culture. First possibility is socialstructure may either influence or determine linguistics structure and/or behavior. A second possibility is directly opposed to the first. Linguistics structure and/or behavior may either influence or determine social structure or worldview. A third possible relationship that the influence is bidirectional : language and society may influence to each other. The reforms of certain language also can be seen by relying on this perspective; the reforms are made because of the changes in societal norms, and the forth possibility is to assume that there is no relationship at all between structure of linguistics and social structure and both of it is independent of the other.

Every language must be consisted of meaning. One of the aspects that influence the meaning itself is culture. Language and culture were two major things that can't be separated in human life. Cultures are everything that people have, think, and do as a member of society. Culture includes a society's art, believe, customs, institutions, inventions, languages and values. Cultural value is the community's wisdom or local genius that deriving from the high value of cultural tradition in order to manage the social community or social life order. Based on theory of Sibarani (2018), cultural value is the local wisdom that come from the ancient value of cultural tradition to regulate the social life in reaching the community progress. Cultural value can be seen in the traditional event such as wedding ceremony, death ceremony, etc.

When talking about cultural values in a tradition, North Labuhanbatu Regency, which is located in North Sumatra Province, is about 250 km to the south of Medan City (the capital of North Sumatra Province) is the sub-district that consists of three majority tribes namely Batak Toba, Batak Mandailing and Javanese. One of the most dominant communities that occupied in this area was Batak Mandailing. One of the cultures that still used by Mandailing society in marriage event in North Labuhanbatu Regency, especially in NA IX-X sub-district (one of the sub-district in North Labuhanbatu Regency) was *Endeng-endeng*.

Endeng-endeng, which is cross in our mind is Mandailing's traditional culture that is played by drums and flutes with poetry songs in Mandailing language. The contents of the lyrics are the pray for the bride, but it is not a case.

Although the song is called *Endeng-endeng*, it shouldn't be denied that there are some songs that also contain the same contents as the essence of *Endeng-endeng* in the style of Mandailing. *Endeng-endeng* can be categorized as the combination of dance and Pencak Silat. This tradition is usually carried out by people who are celebrating a circumcision event or in the wedding ceremony in the night by the society. "*Endeng-endeng*" is a traditional dance that originating from South Tapanuli area that describes the joy and joyful expression of everyday society. The song lyrics of *Endeng-endeng* are in Mandailing language. Mandailing language is a vernacular of Mandailing tribe in Indonesia, especially in North Sumatera. Beside as communication tool, it is also as the symbol identity of Mandailing ethnics. Attachment of language is a strong as people regard themselves as social group, which is mostly influenced by the way how the larger society regard them. The maintenance of language must be done because language shows the identity of the language users. As Holmes (2001) stated that for a minority group's identity, language is considered as important symbol, so the language is likely to be maintained longer. Moreover, Corson (2000) said that the important thing for the self-identity and esteem of its speakers is the maintenance of the language itself.

In *Endeng-endeng*, there is a song that is sung. It's called "*Endeng-endeng*" song. The lyrics of the song are the advice for the couple that get marriage. This song is like a rhyme (pantun). Based on the explanation above, the researcher wants to analyze what cultural values that exist in song lyrics of *Endeng-endeng*. At the present time many Mandailing people don't know about this tradition and the cultural values in these song lyrics. They only singing

without knowing the real meaning and the values that consist in that song lyrics. Therefore, as one of the traditional culture at Mandailing society, especially in North Labuhanbatu, this tradition needs to be preserved and worthy to continue to be studied in order to not become extinct. Thus, the study of *Endeng-endeng* is a part of effort to explore the local wisdom that is often neglected by the community. For that purpose, this research is written with a focus on research entitled "Cultural Values in Song Lyrics *Endeng-endeng* in Wedding Ceremony of Mandailing Society in North Labuhanbatu Regency".

B. The Problems of the Study

Based on the description on the background, the problems of the study were formulated as followed :

- a. What types of cultural values in song lyrics "*Endeng-endeng*" were used in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency ?
- b. What was the dominant type of cultural values were used in song lyrics "*Endeng-endeng*" in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency ?
- c. How were the cultural values in song lyrics "*Endeng-endeng*" applied in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency?

C. The Objectives of the Study

In relation to the problem of the study, the objectives of the study were:

- a. To find out the types of cultural values were used in song lyrics “*Endeng-endeng*” in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency.
- b. To find out the dominant types of cultural values were used in song lyrics “*Endeng-endeng*” in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency.
- c. To clarify the cultural values in song lyrics “*Endeng-endeng*” that existed in wedding ceremony of Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency.

D. The Scope of the Study

In this case, this study focused on the cultural values in song lyrics “*Endeng-endeng*” that were applied by Mandailing society in North Labuhanbatu Regency in wedding ceremony based on Simanjuntak theory about Cultural Values in Batak, while the discussion about the meaning of that song lyrics have been done based on Semantics theory, that discussed about the meaning that consisted in the song lyrics of *Endeng-endeng* itself. The *Endeng-endeng* songs were taken from the internet, that were written by Gusnadi HSB and another song writers.

E. The Significance of the Study

The findings of the study were expected to be useful for :

1. Theoretically

- a. The result of this research could be used by lecturers as additional materials that they can give to the students when they discuss the same materials.
- b. The result of this research could be used by the next researcher as the additional reference or information of data to conduct the further study.

2. Practically

It could be the document for the tradition of *Endeng-endeng* as one of the cultural assets owned by Mandailing society, because the tradition is already extinct, so that with the existence of society could give appreciation to the tradition. In addition, it could be beneficial to the social practice. *Endeng-endeng* could be a media for making the relationship between one society with another society, or between one family with another family become closer, because *Endeng-endeng* united two different families, or united one family with another family by dancing together, and rejoice together.