

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language and culture have a relationship from each other to save the culture identity. The speaker must keep their local language. The maintenance of language depends on their life because in daily activity we need language to communicate with others. With the language, we can share our feelings, our thoughts, wishes, purposes, and so on. Clark and Clark E.V (1997) said that the difference between us and other things can be seen from the use of language. We build our identity through the language we use because language can show who we are. Language and society are closely related because the interaction between tribes, ethnic groups, and religions can happen. After all, it can be concluded that language has a relationship with human life in the community.

At the moment, language shifts potentially happen in the local language in Indonesia. As Siregar (1998), in the younger generation, there has been a shift in language, especially in Medan. Moreover, Ingrid (2020) found that language maintenance happens because of the habit and strong support of their parents to the local language maintenance to keep their cultural identity.

Weinreich (1968) defined that language shift is a change that occurs in society or the loss of a language. The vernacular language is one of the ethnic identity symbols and if the language shift cannot be minimized, the vernacular language will slowly disappear. If the vernacular language is lost, it means that Indonesia will lose its cultural

wealth especially ethnic identities. So to maintain the integrity of cultural identity, we need language maintenance.

To maintain the integrity of their vernacular language, there are several factors that influence it. Like in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara, in this village there are many cultures like Javanese, Batakese, and Banjarnese. Javanese language is often used in interacting with others.

Furthermore, the children sometimes cannot use their mother tongue or Javanese language as they communicate with the eldest of the same age. But their parent and older people still use the Javanese language at a special events or in daily activities. For example in One Suro Tradition event and wedding ceremony in Javanese, they still use the *Krama* speech level of Javanese Language. In daily communication at the age of 10-29 years old, they use *the Ngoko* level and some people still use *the Krama* level to interact with others even though that speech level is only used by parents or second generation to the first generation at the age 30-80 years old.

Finally, the researcher chooses this indication as the problem since the researcher knows an ethnic group still maintains their vernacular language, as it is in Dusun Kampung Banjar. As found in Dusun Kampung Banjar that Javanese people still maintained the Javanese language in the community

The research found the Javanese language still maintain in Dusun Kampung Banjar as follow:

A : *Pripun kabare mbah?*

‘How are you grandfather?’

B : *Yo sae-sae mawon, panjenengan piye kabare?*

‘I am fine, and you?’

A : *Alhamdulillah sae mbah.*

‘Alhamdulillah, I am good’

(Source: H. Poniran, Kampung Banjar, 19th August 2021)

Based on these data, in Kampung Banjar the Javanese language still maintain by them. As Carson (2001) said that the maintenance of legacy is crucial for personal identity and eastern of its speakers. So, the local language must be safeguarded, covered, and secured.

The previous research about Javanese language maintenance has been researched by Riski (2018) with the title “The Maintenance of Javanese Language by Minority Living in Kecamatan Anjungan Pontianak”. The participants were 20 Javanese people who live in Kecamatan Anjungan Pontianak taken by purposive random sampling. And the result is that five factors influence the minority of Javanese language maintenance as Socio-Demographic, Endogamy (intermarriage), Family domain, neighborhood domain, and ethnolinguistic vitality.

This research is focused on the language maintenance of Javanese language variations in the community. The research had different findings from the previous research because this research focuses on the Javanese language maintenance in Dusun Kampung Banjar Desa Tanjung Pasir, Kecamatan Kualuh Selatan Labuhanbatu Utara is not researched yet. The researcher is interested in this research because it happened around her. And this research will explore the Javanese language maintenance among the Javanese people in Dusun Kampung Banjar.

1.2 The problems of the Study

Based on the background of the study, the problems are:

1. What factors influence maintenance of the Javanese language in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara?
2. How are the Javanese language maintained in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara?
3. Why are Javanese language maintained in the ways they are?

1.3 The Objectives of the Study

Based on the problem of the study, the objectives are:

1. to analyze the factor influence the maintenance of the Javanese language that used in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara.
2. to investigate the Javanese speakers maintain Javanese language in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara, and
3. to explain the reasons of the Javanese speakers maintainin Javanese language in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara.

1.4 The Scope of the Study

Researcher only focuses on the Javanese language maintenance among the Javanese speakers in the Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara at the age 10-80 years old.

1.5 The Significance of the Study

The findings of the research are expected to give both theoretical and practical significance. Theoretically, the findings of the research are useful for the extend of the

theory of language maintenance of Javanese language in Dusun Kampung Banjar, Labuhanbatu Utara.

Practically, the research will be used as guidance for the young generation to keep the integrity of their ethnicity and use Javanese language for social interaction, especially in the maintenance of Javanese language in Dusun Kampung Banjar. And the findings are also useful for the other researchers who want to use the result of this research as a comparison material or guidance.

