

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents background of the study, statement of the research problems, objectives of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation of the study.

1.1 Background of the Study

Human are the noblest creatures. They use language to communicate each others. Language allows people to say things to each other and to express their feelings. It is the cement of society, which allows people to live, work, and play together. Kreidler (1998, p. 6) defines language as a system of symbols which enable people to communicate. Sometimes, people use a different intonation of language in different context and in different situations; to whom they are talking, what they are talking and when they are talking.

From the fact above, we can say that people cannot be separated from their language. While, their language cannot be separated from their society. The writer focuses on language which has relation to society, or we can say that the focus of this study is sociolinguistics. Hudson (1980, p. 4-5) states that sociolinguistics is the study of language in relation to society. Sociolinguistics concerns with the correlation between social factors and linguistic variation.

One of the interesting topics in sociolinguistics particularly in the scope of linguistic variety is *cant*. *Cant* is defined as language variation of whining or pretending (Chaer & Agustina, 1995, p. 87). Typically, *cant* is used by low social

circles, for example by beggars (Chaer & Agustina, 2002, p. 68). Kuswarno (2009, p. 141) states that beggars are the people who earn income by begging in public place by using various ways.

(Ahamdi, 2010) states that begging is a social problem which demands not only psychological consequences, such as the development of inferiority in the beggars' family members and their network of kinship, but also will affect, the geographical and social structure of the urban areas.

One of the reason why the writer taking this title is because *Cant* is unique. It is called unique, because *cant* uses special whining and pretending utterances as the characteristics of beggars. Those characters make people feel sympathy. This language is very interesting to be analysed.

The area of Sunan Giri's graveyard is one of productive places which has been accupied by beggars. There are many visitors going to this area because they consider that this place is a sacred place to facilitate people worshipping their God. There are also many beggars expressions in that place. One expression may be expressed more than one. For instance, when a beggars sees visitors come to visit the graveyard, she/he commonly say "*Young man, can I ask your money.*" The beggar asks some money to visitors who bring bags. The utterance above can be categorized as request.

This study analyzes the utterances that is produced by beggars when they attract to the visitors' attentions. It uses sociolinguistics theory to analyze *cant*. This research focuses on interaction between beggars and visitors in Sunan Giri'

Graveyard area. The writer challenges himself to conduct a research entitled “A Study of Cant Expressed by Beggars at Sunan Giri’s Graveyard Gresik ”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study above, it can be formulated the research questions of this study, those are:

1. What are the characteristics of *cant* produced by beggars at Sunan Giri’s graveyard Gresik ?
2. What are the factors which influence the use of *cant* used by beggars at Sunan Giri’s graveyard Gresik ?

1.3 Objectives of the Study

In line with the research problems above, this study has the following objectives :

1. To explain the characteristics of *cant* produced by beggars at Sunan Giri graveyard Gresik.
2. To explain the factors which influence the use of *cant* used by beggars at Sunan Giri graveyard Gresik.

1.3 Significance of the Study

This study is expected to provide theoretical and practical benefits. Theoretically, the findings of this study supports the theory of language variation

in sociolinguistics field especially *cant*. Meanwhile, practically, this study gives more understanding to people dealing with beggars. In addition, this study inspires other writers to conduct further study about *cant*.

1.4 Scope and Limitation of the Study

The scope of this study is sociolinguistics especially the theory of *cant*. It discusses *cant* which are expressed by beggars. To make this study more specific, this study limits its discussion only on utterances of beggars in Sunan Giri's Graveyard Gresik when they interact with visitors