

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents five sub chapters that consist of background of the study, research question, objective of the study, significance of the study, and scope and limitation.

1.1 Background of the Study

The definition of "language" is a human method used to communicate ideas, emotions, and desires through intentionally produced symbols (Sapir, 1921). Language is a natural ability that humans are born with, not an instinct. Sapir (1921) explained that the naturalness of language does not require learning like walking, because walking is a biological function inherent in humans. Unlike walking, language is not something that is predetermined. Although speaking is something destined for every human being, language is inherited from the environment or society in which a person lives. According to Sapir (1921), language can change according to the environment and society in which it is used. Unlike walking, which remains unchanged regardless of the environment, a person's ability to walk will not be affected if they only change their environment, because walking is a universal human activity.

Language shift is the mother tongue within a group of speakers that has been displaced and lost. Because it has been lost, a new language takes its place as the mother tongue within that group of speakers. However, according to Fishman (1991), language shift occurs when the dominant language begins to replace the minority or native language in the realm of community life. Speakers will readily switch to using their primary language, employing the dominant language if their native language does not have high functional value in terms of education, social, economic, or political aspects. Fishman attributes the phenomenon of language shift to intergenerational language transmission as well as social domains. According to Fishman, these two aspects are significant factors in changing the dominant language shift. Language shift is one of the branches of linguistics within

sociolinguistics. Therefore, language shift and sociolinguistics are closely related, as sociolinguistics is a branch of linguistics that studies the relationship between language and society. According to Fishman (1991), the phenomenon of language shift can occur due to factors such as migration, generation, and domain. Consequences arising from these factors that cause language shift can damage culture and language, making communication difficult for both minority and dominant language users.

In a multilingual community, the dominance of one language often affects the use of other local languages. In everyday social interaction, certain languages tend to be used more frequently in specific spaces, while other languages are limited to certain dominant groups. In the observed village of Pamatan, Probolinggo, Madurese is widely used in interactions, while Javanese is increasingly limited or only used in specific contexts such as educational settings. In previous studies that examined language shift, most only focused on emerging factors such as migration, or only focused on the domains of education and family. However, in this study, attention is given to the factors and consequences that arise from language shift in Pamatan village, Probolinggo.

The researcher is interested in studying this topic because they directly witnessed how the people of Pamatan Village, Probolinggo, use two languages in their daily communication: Madurese and Javanese. However, in this case, it is still referred to as language shift because the speakers choose Madurese as the dominant or main language in daily communication rather than Javanese as their native language. However, the main focus of this study is still on the consequences that cause language shifts in Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. Therefore, the researcher will conduct further investigation into the causes of language shift and also identify the consequences of language shift occurring in the community of Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. The researcher focuses on the field of linguistics within sociolinguistics, which is the study of language events that occur in social life. Therefore, this knowledge and experience are relevant for analyzing the language shift phenomenon occurring in Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. Through this

understanding, the researcher can examine language shift in society in a deep and systematic way. This study explores the phenomenon of language shift in Pamatan village, Probolinggo, as a case study, using a purposive sample that reflects local dynamics rather than generalizing to the entire population. Although there have been researchers studying the use of Madurese and Javanese languages or Javanese and Madurese cultures in Probolinggo, there has been no specific research on the dynamics of language shift occurring in Probolinggo, especially in Pamatan Village, that deals with the factors causing this language shift and the consequences of this phenomenon.

1.2 Research Questions

Based on background of the study, the researcher discusses about personality development, and the problem is formulated as follows:

1. What are the factors that cause language shift in Pamatan village, Probolinggo?
2. What are the consequences of the language shift phenomenon in Pamatan village, Probolinggo?

1.3. Objectives of the Study

The results of discussion about the research question have the objectives below:

1. To identify the factors that emerge regarding the dynamics of the shift from Javanese to Madurese in Pamatan village, Probolinggo.
2. To explore the consequences of the language shift emerging in Pamatan village, Probolinggo.

1.4. Significances of the Study

There are two significances of the study. They are theoretical and practical significance. The explanation is as follow:

1. Theoretical Significance

Theoretically, this study supports sociolinguistic theories that identify factors influencing the occurrence of Madurese language shift among speaker communities. This study also aims to investigate the consequences of the language shift phenomenon in Pamatan village, Probolinggo.

2. Practical Significance

- a) The findings from this study on language shift have the potential to make a significant contribution to the development of linguistic science, particularly in the field of sociolinguistics, due to their relevance in linguistic studies and social-language dynamics.
- b) For other readers, the results of this study can serve as a relevant reference for further studies examining language shift phenomena in other communities, both nationally and internationally.
- c) For the general public, this study provides insight into the richness of local languages and cultures, thereby increasing appreciation for linguistic diversity in Indonesia.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

This study focuses on the factors that cause the phenomenon of language shift in the speaker community of Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. The study revealed that the dominant language, Madurese, has displaced Javanese, the native language. The researcher also analyzed the results or consequences of the language shift phenomenon occurring in Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. The theory used to address the research question in this study is based on Fishman (1991). The respondents in this study did not have specific categories for age, occupation, and gender, but the researcher set a category for respondents residing in Pamatan village, Probolinggo, for a minimum of 10 years to analyze how language patterns change and occur. This study exclusively focuses on speakers who have experienced and participated in the process of language shift, specifically in Pamatan Village, Probolinggo. The respondents and villages selected in this study may not be representative of communities in other villages. The sample size of

respondents in this study was determined using data saturation. This study was conducted within a specific timeframe and with limited data sources, which may restrict the analysis of every aspect of the phenomenon being studied.