

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

This study contains introduction which presents the background of the research. It covers six elements, namely: background study, research questions, aims of the study, scope of the study, clarification of key terms and paper organization.

1.1 Background of study

Indonesia is a country which has hundreds distinct regional languages representing hundreds of different cultures. One of regional languages in Indonesia is Javanese. Javanese is a vernacular language in Indonesia which is one of Indonesian assets (Rahayu, 2011). People who speak Javanese in Indonesia are around 75 million people spread all over the region in Java Island and other regions in Indonesia, as well as some regions outside Indonesia such as Malaysia, Suriname and New Caledonia (Crystall as cited in Lestari, 2010).

Language change develops in two ways: through community and through language. It is what happens to Javanese in Indonesia (Aitchinson, 2004). Javanese changes through regions and communities which cause existence of different dialects and different accents (Lestari, 2010). In Java Island, there are varieties of Javanese dialects such as Javanese dialects in in Cilegon, Cirebon, Cilacap, Yogyakarta, Malang and Surabaya. The difference of dialects and accents leads to sound changes in a number of Javanese words. Javanese language can change phonologically because of the influence of the adjacent sound in a word (Subianto, 2010).

Further, sound changes are part of the internal language variety (Kurniati and Mardikantoro, 2010). There are some kinds of sound changes such as lenition and

fortition, sound addition, metathesis, fusion, unpacking, vowel breaking, assimilation, dissimilation and abnormal sound changes (Crowley, 1997).

Because of a number of sound changes in Javanese words, there must be a basic form of the words. This basic form comes from a mother language which is called *proto-form*. The varieties of Javanese dialects such as Cilegon, Cirebon, Cilacap, Yogyakarta, Malang and Surabaya are sister languages which are related to each other because they all come from the same mother language. These Javanese sister languages have similarities and differences in phonological domain. These differences can be used to identify and analyse proto-form. Phonological analysis helps to define the proto-form of the words.

The present study seeks to contribute to literature of comparative method usage to determine a proto-form of a certain language because the studies on Indonesian regional languages are still small in number. Using analysis in sound changes and comparative method proposed by Crowley (1997) this study discovers sound changes and the proto-form of some Javanese dialects through sound change analysis of a cognate. The Javanese dialects which were analysed in this study come from three regions in Java Island: West Java, Central Java and East Java. Every region is presented with two Javanese dialects so there are six Javanese dialects which are analysed. Javanese dialect in Cilegon and Cirebon represent Javanese dialect in West Java. Central Java dialect is presented by Javanese dialect in Cilacap and Yogyakarta and East Java dialects is presented by Javanese dialect in Malang and Surabaya. One participant was taken from each six dialects. The participants were men above 40 years old. The participants are interviewed to translate 200 Swadesh word list which is then formed to be a cognate. From the cognate, the sound changes were analysed to know what kind of sound changes that happen in the cognate of six Javanese dialects. The result of sound change analysis from the cognate of six Javanese dialects was

analysed to find the proto-form among six Javanese dialects in Java Island. The conclusion is also presented to complete the study.

Some previous research about sound changes and proto-form of a language was done by some previous linguists. Holton, et al. (2012) were linguists who had done this kind of research toward 97 proto-Alor-Pantar vocabulary items. They applied the comparative method to primary lexical data from twelve languages sampled across the islands of the Alor-Pantar archipelago to prove whether these languages were genetically related.

In addition, Pesquera (2007) identified sound changes of different dialects in Spanish speakers of Argentinean immigrant who moved to Mexico city and found that Argentinean immigration to Mexico since 1974 caused the immigrant of Argentinean adopted some sound features of Mexican dialect.

The findings of this study are intended to show the reader that Javanese has many varieties spread from East to West Java Island with different pronunciations that are influenced by the differences in its dialects and accents.

1.2 Research Question

Research questions that will lead this study are as follows:

1. What sound changes can be identified from the cognates?
2. What are the proto-forms of those Javanese cognates?

1.3 Aim of the Study

The aims of this research are as follows:

1. To reveal the sound change among some Javanese dialects and its similarities and differences.
2. To identify the proto-form of each cognate.

1.4 The scope of the study

This study only analyzed six Javanese dialects of some regions to determine sound changes and proto-form. The seven Javanese dialects which are the object on this study are Javanese dialect varieties of Cilegon, Cirebon, Cilacap, Jogja, Malang and Surabaya. The words which are taken for samples are adopted from the Swadesh word list translated into Javanese by interviewing the native speakers of each dialect. The Javanese words that are formed into cognates in this study are limited only to those that are phonologically similar.

1.5 Significance of the study

This study is expected to make contribution to literature of comparative method usage to determine the proto-form. It is also expected to contribute to literature about Javanese language knowledge in Indonesia which is still rare. It can be useful to provide insight to Javanese language development. It provides information about the variety of Javanese dialect in Indonesia. Hopefully, this study can be used as a supporting tool to other studies about Javanese language in Indonesia.

1.6 Research methodology

Rizki Aulianisa, 2016

THE PROTO-FORM AND SOUND CHANGES AMONG SOME JAVANESE DIALECT IN INDONESIA.

Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia | repository.upi.edu | perpustakaan.upi.edu

This study employs qualitative method to determine sound changes and analyses proto-form of every word from the cognate of six Javanese dialects which is taken from 200 Swadesh word list. The study uses six male respondents from each six dialects whose age is above 40 years old.

1.6.1 Data Collection

The data were collected from six males above 40 years who were chosen randomly from each region of six Javanese dialects. Those respondents were interviewed and asked to translate the words from 200 Swadesh list into Javanese. Then, all data were compared and grouped to be a cognate to be analyzed.

1.6.2 Data analysis

Some theories are used to analyse the data. The theory of sound changes that is proposed by Crowley (1997) is used to determine the sound changes that occur in the cognate of six Javanese dialects. The theory about proto-form that is also proposed by Crowley (1997) is also applied to the data analysis of the proto-form of each word in the cognate of six Javanese dialects. To support the analysis of sound change and proto-form, the theory about sound changes and comparative method by Campbell (1999) is also used.

1.7 Clarification of related term

There are some terms that need to be explained, thus it will be easy to understand and avoid misunderstanding. However, this section will only explain simple explanation of each term. The terms are as follows:

1. Comparative method

Comparative method is a method to compare two or more related languages to find its original form.

2. Proto-form

Proto-form is a form of proto language or mother language.

3. Dialect

Dialect is a particular form of a language which is spoken in a certain area with their own style.

4. Sound changes

Sound change is a sound changes to another sound in a word which is a part of historical linguistics that is often the result of language change.

5. Cognate

Cognate is a set of words which is related each other because they come from sister languages.

1.8 Organization of paper

This paper will be presented into five chapters:

1) Chapter 1 : Introduction

This chapter consists of background of study, reasons for choosing the topic, research questions, the aims of the study, scope of the study, significance of the study, the research methodology, the research procedures and the organization of paper.

2) Chapter 2 : Literature Review

The chapter provides theoretical foundations as the basis of analysis that are related to the research along with relevant texts. Besides, it contains previous studies, research related to the topic, terms definition and clarification.

3) Chapter 3 : Research Methodology

This chapters consists of the research methodology used to carry out the research. This chapter includes research design, data collection, and data analysis.

4) Chapter 4 : Findings and Discussion

In this chapter, the writer discusses the findings of the data analysis and interpretation of the result.

5) Chapter 5 : Conclusion and suggestion

This chapter presents the conclusions and the suggestions for the next study.