

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

In relation to the growth of the literature, especially in the form of translated version, many kinds of literary book are easily found in our surroundings. One of the examples of the most popular literary book writer is Kahlil Gibran. Kahlil Gibran is a Lebanese American philosophical artist, poet, essayist, and novelist. Nurjanah (2003:1) states that Gibran's literary and artistic works are highly romantic in outlook and are influenced by Bible, Freidrich Nietsche, and William Blake. His works that are written in Arabic and English put forth many kinds of themes, such as love, death, and nature, which come from his deepest contemplation of life. Those themes are full of lyrical outpouring and express Gibran's perspectives about religion and at the same time possess mystical nuances.

The Prophet – a book composed of 26 poetic essays – is the most outstanding works among all his works. This book had been written since Gibran was 15 years old, when he studied in Al Hikmah School. This book script had gone through more than ten-year revision until it published in 1923. During the 1960s, The Prophet became especially popular with the American counterculture and New Age movements. The Prophet is still famous today and had been translated into more than 20 languages.

As confirmed by Barbara Young (1969) – Gibran's colleague and known also as a popular poet –, “the work of The Prophet is shaped by the more skilled English stylistic and painted by the spiritual atmosphere”. Nowadays, as mentioned before,

the Prophet has been translated in several languages including Bahasa Indonesia. Furthermore, there are at least more than five translated version in Bahasa Indonesia for the same source of the Prophet. Those translated versions can be found easily in bookstore.

Of course, from all kinds of translated versions there are good and bad translation products. It occurs generally for many book titles, especially for the same titles by different translators and publishers. However, a lot of observations can be done to find the better quality of the translated versions.

In terms of the original meaning of translation, some rules in knowing the quality of translation product should be noticed. According to Roman Jakobson in the article 'On Linguistics Aspects of Translation' (Bassnett, 1996:14), there are three types of translations:

- a. *Intralingual* translation, or *rewording* (an interpretation of verbal signs by means of other signs in the same language)
- b. *Interlingual* translation, or *translation proper* (an interpretation of verbal signs by means of some other language)
- c. *Intersemiotic* translation or *transmutation* (an interpretation of verbal signs by means of signs of nonverbal signs system)

Categories of the kinds of translation mentioned above can differentiate many kinds of translation especially in literature area. The examples are the poem translation from several authors such as Kahlil Gibran, Jalalludin Rumi, Shakespeare, and many more. It can be seen that many publishers come with different translation product for certain title and author. Two or more kinds of translation products from

different publishers can be compared using the theory of translation mentioned by several experts.

There were several aspects used as the parameters to know whether the translation product is accepted in target language (TL). The aspects include clarity, accuracy, and naturalness. Naturalness is used to know whether the translations product naturally accepted in TL. It will give much information about the natural aspect of the translation product among two translated versions for the same source. We will find that the naturalness in source language (SL) and target language (TL) is different one another. And, the translator should try to translate the text as natural as it is found in SL. Of course, it is hard to find the most natural translation product among them, but by using some parameters the better of translation can be found.

Beside that, from the naturalness aspect we can also find the translators' goal in translating the text given. Surely, in two kinds of translation product there will be some intentions carried out by two translators. Naturally, the meaning of translation is transferring meaning from one language into other language. The translator translates the message without fully considering his knowledge. He can only render the meaning by considering the cultural background from both languages. Beside that, the meaning distortion will be assumed as the refusal to basic principle in translation.

1.2 Research Questions

The study is conducted to answer problems related to the outcome of the translation. The problems are:

- a. What translation procedures are used by translators in translating the source text?
- b. What are common translation procedures that often used in translating the source text?
- c. What are the strengths and weaknesses of the translated versions?

1.3 The Aims of the Study

In general the purpose of the study is to compare the translation products from different publishers of the same source. Particularly the main aims of the study are:

1. To find translation procedures are used by each translator in translating *the Prophet Book* by Kahlil Gibran.
2. To find the translation procedure that often used in translating the source text.
3. To describe the strengths and weaknesses of each translator based on its procedure.

1.4 Significance of The Study

The results of the study are expected to gain several things which are:

1. To know the better translation product of different translators for the same resource in terms of its procedures.
2. To increase the students knowledge about translation especially about translation procedures.
3. To provide the strengths and weaknesses of each translation used in literary works.

1.5 Limitation of The Study

The study discusses the translation product of *The Prophet* book by Kahlil Gibran as the work of the different publisher. It also analyzes the translation procedure from English into Indonesian. Beside that, this study covers the investigation on the strengths and weaknesses of the translated versions by each translator.

1.6 Research Design

This research used the qualitative approach as the main instrument in this research. Fraenkel and Wallen (1933:380) say that qualitative research method is the research studies, which investigate the quality of relationships, activities, situations, or materials.

Furthermore, Cresswell (1994:1), mentions that qualitative study is defined as an inquiry process of understanding a social on human problem based on building complex, holistic picture, formed with words, reporting detailed views of informants and conducted in a natural setting.

1.7 Data Resources

In this present study, the data resource of this study is Gibran's poetry essays entitled "The Prophet" and its three Indonesian translated versions. The first publisher is Pustaka Jaya, second publisher is Pustaka Pelajar, and the last is ESKA Media. Based on Fraenkel and Wallen (1993:88), a descriptive study must at least have samples with a minimum number of 100. They state that "A recommended

minimum number of subjects are 100 for a descriptive study, 50 for a correlative study, and 30 in each group for experimental and causal-comparative study”.

1.8 Data Collecting Procedures

1. Finding out the translation procedures by using Newmark's criteria in the translated versions
 - a. Each paragraph of the translated versions is placed next to the original version.
 - b. Each paragraph is analyzed by focusing on the translation procedures.
 - c. The result is presented by using the simple table.
2. Finding out the translation quality of the translated versions
 - a. It conducted by using the Larson's characteristic on how to know the translation quality.
 - b. It used questionnaire as the instrument of the research that make some expert reader or reviewer as the respondent to assess the naturalness of the translated versions.
 - c. At the end, it used the table as the media in reporting the result.

1.9 Technique of Data Analysis

In this section, the researcher used the translation procedures that are mentioned by Newmark in order to analyze the procedures found in each translated versions. It is important to know what kinds of translation procedures used by every translator in three translated versions. Besides that, he also used Larson's characteristic on how to know the translation quality to identify the strengths and

weaknesses of the translated versions. By doing so, the researcher will easily answer the research question about the quality of translation mentioned before.

1.10 The Clarification of the Terms

In the order to understand the notion underlying in this paper, some terms are clarified as follow arc:

1. *Translation* is transferring the meaning from one language into another in the way that the translator intended the translation.
2. *Naturalness* is one aspect of translation product that used to know how far the translation product naturally accepted by target language (IT.) user with some consideration relate to many aspect of the language.

1.11 Organization of the Paper

The research paper is organized into five chapters as follow:

Chapter I

This chapter contains several things such as the introduction which discuss the background, the statements of the problems, the aims of the study, the significant of the study, clarifications of the keys terms, and the organization of the paper.

Chapter II

This section mentions the theoretical foundations, which serve a basic for investigating the problems of the research.

Chapter III

It contains research methodology used to discuss the steps, procedures, and the instrument of the research.

Chapter IV

This chapter contains findings and discussion of the investigation.

Chapter V

Chapter V compiles conclusions and suggestions based on the investigation.

