CHAPTER III

RESEARCH METHOD

3.1 Research Design

Wiyanti (2005) writes that *"the best method to investigate something is a method which gives appropriate results with the research objectives."* (Wiyanti 2005, 33). Qualitative method which deals with qualitative data is applied in this research to identify the affixation changes in Cirebonese.

Basically, this research is an activity to investigate the changes in Cirebonese from era to era reflected from literary works, while this language is still used by Cirebonese people. Thus, to support this activity, descriptive method is applied to give clear descriptions. In descriptive method, Achmadi & Narbuko (2002) explain that this method includes some activities like collecting data, arranging, classifying, analyzing, and interpreting them based on actual phenomenon to solve actual problems (Achmadi & Narbuko in Wiyanti 2005, 33). Besides that, to depict the prefix *a-* change from Middle Cirebonese to Modern Cirebonese, comparative method is also applied here.

3.2 Data Collection

To get many kinds of prefix *a-* changes in Cirebonese, namely the changes from Middle to Modern Cirebonese, to collect the data, researcher did some stages. They are:

1. The data of derivative words in Middle Cirebonese are taken from *Serat Catur Kanda*. It is a poet book with *macapat* system written in 1848 by Harya Suryaadhiningrat. This book is originally written in hanacaraka, but the translation version is also available[1] without changing the grammar, spelling and the content.

2. The data of derivative words in Modern Cirebonese are taken from *Nguntal Nagara*. It is modern poet book which is published in 2005 and written by Cirebonese poets. Different from *Serat Catur Kanda*, *Nguntal Nagara* is written in Latin alphabet.

3. To search the intended derivative words –namely derivative words containing prefix *a-* and its *anuswara-*, either in Middle or in Modern Cirebonese text, AntConc 3.2.1 is used. It is a corpus software which functions to do the words selection.

4. Categorizing the data based on *the tendency of nasal*[2] or nasal prefix.

5. Validating the words using Cirebonese dictionary, *Kamus Basa Jawa (Bausastra Jawa)*, and *Kamus Jawa Kuna Indonesia Bagian* 1 & 2; and to compare derivative words found in Middle Cirebonese text which is written in Latin, the rule of word-form in hanacaraka is also implemented

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[1] The translation version of *Serat Catur Kanda* is the result of translation process from hanacaraka to Latin. It is believed that there are no changes in grammar and in the spelling of the text.

[2] "The tendency of nasal" is a term created by researcher to express the existing characters in Middle Cirebonese which have much variations different from the standardization of *anuswara*.

to investigate the word-form process of prefix *a-*[3]. Furthermore, in this stage, researcher is helped by Cirebonese philologist, Dodi Yulianto, to confirm the meaning of the Middle Cirebonese text.

6. Interview session is held to get further information about Cirebonese. Even though the focus of this interview session is not on the prefix *a-* change, Nurdin M. Noor as the leader of *Dewan Kesenian Cirebon* enriches this study with the information about Cirebonese.

7. The data consist of seventy seven (77) words from Middle Cirebonese and a hundred and fifty two (152) words from Modern Cirebonese.

3.3 Data Analysis

In analyzing the data containing prefix *a-* either in Middle or in Modern Cirebonese text, this study used *Anuswara* Principles conducted by Padmosoekotjo (1986) and prefix *a-* and *n-/ m-* prefix in Modern Cirebonese by Salana (2002). Padmosoekotjo (1986) is regarded as *Kaidah Sriwedari* in Javanese (Padmosoekotjo, 1986). This is a standardization which becomes a parameter of formal Javanese. Hanacaraka is implemented as the tool for explaining *anuswara* principles. This step was done too by Padmosoekotjo.

Document interpretation is applied in this study as the second step in analyzing the data. It is because document is included into material culture[4]. This method is chosen based on some considerations, such as:

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[3] There are different processes of word-forms (derivative words) which involve prefix *a-* within them, and hanacaraka rule is capable to explain the process clearer than Latin.

a. There are so many old documents in Cirebonese which are not interpreted yet, especially in digging up language until the small elements – by discussing about the changes of prefix *a-*.[5]

b. Material culture in document form can be reinterpreted in different contexts. Hodder (2009) states that culture in material form can be preserved for long term period and this is able to be reinterpreted in the different context, either in the context of culture or social (Hodder in Denzin and Yvonne, 2009: 550). Besides, this is regarded as mute evidence.

Related to prefix *a-* in Middle and Modern Cirebonese, document interpretation is used as an analysis step to distinguish the variations of prefix *a-* in Cirebonese. In this step researcher is helped by Dodi Yulianto, Cirebonese Philologist; Nurdin M. Noor, the leader of *Dewan Kesenian Cirebon*; and Mugi Handoyo, an announcer of Cirebon ethnic radio.

The last step in analyzing the data is the explanation step. Here, several variations of prefix *a-* either in Middle or in Modern Cirebonese are explained in order to get the comparison process of prefix *a-* between they exist in Middle and Modern Cirebonese. This step considers as comparative descriptive. It is very

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[4] Material culture is a term used by Denzin and Lincoln in *Handbook of Qualitative Research*, particularly in the text written by Ian Hodder.

[5] There are some researches related to Cirebonese. Most of them merely discuss Cirebonese synchronically and usually do not discuss further until the basic of the system in Linguistics. Some existing researches related to this are such as *Bahasa Sunda di Daerah Cirebon* by Ayatrohaedi, *Bahasa Sunda dialek Cirebon*, or even the text book like what was written by Salana, *Wyakarana*.

important because from this process the evolution of prefix *a-* can be tracked down.

3.4 Research Instruments

Miles and Huberman (1994) express that instruments can be meant devices used for observing and recording event (Miles and Huberman, 1994: 35). In this paper, instrument is interpreted as tools which help researcher to do this research. These tools tend to be applied primarily in observing and recording event. Eventually, to support this research, some instruments are used.

a. Recorder. This instrument is used to record interview sessions.

b. Javanese and Cirebonese Dictionary. The main functions of these dictionaries are to check the existing word either in Javanese or in Cirebonese. Although, occasionally, some definitions taken from Javanese dictionary are written as theoretical foundations. Javenese dictionary used is *Kamus Basa Jawa (Bausastra Jawa)* by Balai Bahasa Yogyakarta; while Cirebonese Dictionary used is *Kamus Bahasa Cirebon* Revision Edition by T.D. Sudjana.

c. Scanner. This instrument is used to scan hard copy of all documents, especially sources of data (Modern Cirebonese text and Ancient Cirebonese text) and change their file types into *jpg.* form and the last thing to do in this step is bundling these jpg. files in pdf.

d. ABBYY Scan to Office Wizard software. After sources of data are scanned by scanner resulting two bundles of pdf., they are still uneditable.

In order to make these files editable, certain software is needed, ABBYY Scan to Office Wizard. This software is to change the form of files from jpg. into Microsoft word. So that, the texts are editable.

e. AntConc. This is also a name of software. It is similar kind of concordance software which is functioned to detect corpus needed.

3.5 AntConc: corpus software

Corpus linguistics is a body of data, especially the finite collection of grammatical sentences of a language or it can be defined as a collection of writings[6]. Looking from its function, basically, corpus is a collection of data.

Related to the product of Corpus, this research uses AntConc corpus to help investigating prefix *a-* changes in Cirebonese. AntConc is corpus software to analyze text automatically at the sentence and discourse level. This is a freeware by Laurence Anthony, PhD of Applied Linguistics. AntConc is a simple concordance program and easy to work. AntConc which is used in this paper is AntConc 3.2.1.

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[6] http://www.thefreedictionary.com/corpus