# CHAPTER I

# INTRODUCTION

This chapter presents the background of the study, statements of problems, the aims of the study, the scope of the study, respondents, and instruments of the study. It also covers the brief overview of the methodology, significant of the study, the definition of some special terms, and an outline of organization of the paper.

## 1.1.    Background of the Study

According to Newmark (1988), translation is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text. It is a common thing to do when so many foreign books come to a country. For people who do not understand a foreign language, they need a translator to translate the books. A translator who translates the books should have a good skill in translating text in order to translate it with a good result.

To be a good translator, it is better to have educational background in translating. It is because foreign text will become a primary source for other people. It has to have a standard so that the translation can be read by other people. To meet the standard, translation becomes one of the subjects in the universities. It is because translation requires specific skills. In addition, since some Indlish do not speak, read, and write English fluently.

In the universities, students are taught that translation is not only about rendering the meaning of text, but also as a tool for communication. Students will be taught about how translation can communicate with people. By translation, people can communicate more widely because translation can be used to disseminate information ranging from notifications to stories. In addition to disseminate information, from the history perspective, translation can be used for communicating culture.

The term that can be used for communicating culture is literary works. It is also claimed by Venuti (2008) who states that translation is produced for any reasons: literary, commercial, pedagogical, technical, propagandistic, and diplomatic. Translating literary works means that the result of translation is for its own specific purposes. Therefore, to produce specific purposes, the translation should meet acceptability rule.

The current study is aimed at finding out the acceptability of translator for translating literary work, especially poetry, by finding out the students' responses from the translation strategy that is used to translate the poems. It is because poetry is one of literary works that has a variety of meaning.

The poems that have been chosen are the poems composed by Goenawan Mohammad entitled "Dingin tak Tercatat" and "Kwatrin tentang Sebuah Poci" which have been translated by Laksmi Pamuntjak with the title "Cold Unregistered" and "Quatrain about A Pot". Both of them are chosen because there are no particular data about the poems. Other than that, the poems can be a tool

for teaching and learning activities to know the acceptability from translating poetry and students' responses.

## 1.2.  Statement of the Problems

The writer formulates the statements of problems as follows:

1.  How acceptable are the two translated poems of Goenawan Mohamad?

a.  What responses to the translated poems are generated by students who read the translation?

b.  What is the strategy used to translate the translated poetry?

## 1.3.  The Aims of the Study

By conducting this study, the writer hopes to disclose:

1.  The acceptability of two translated poems of Goenawan Mohamad.

2.  The responses to the translated poems.

## 1.4.  Scope of the Study

The present study mainly focuses on the two translations of Goenawan Mohamad poems and readers' responses toward them. The elaboration of the response is in regards to the acceptability of the translation and the understanding of the students' responses.

### 1.5. Respondents of the Study

The respondents of this study are English Department students of UPI year 2008 class Non Education A that comprises 40 students. Four students are taken as the samples. It is in line with what Gay (1987:114) suggested that the samples in a research require minimum 10% of the total population. The samples also include two persons of native speakers who will be taken from the students who have been studying in Balai Bahasa Universitas Pendidikan Indonesia.

### 1.6. Methodology

The study uses qualitative research method because it has something to do and is appropriate with the writer's field. Additionally, the topic of the current study is suitable to be examined by qualitative research. It is claimed by Clough & Nutbrown (2002:18) who state that qualitative implies an emphasis on the qualities of entities and on processes and meanings that are not experimentally examined or measured (if measured at all in terms of quantity, amount, intensity, or frequency). After that, the writer will search the answer of the research questions.

In order to get the answer of the research questions, the study uses one form of qualitative research, case study. Case study is often seen as prime example of qualitative research. It is probably because case study adopts three important things that need to focus on qualitative research:

(1) an interpretive approach data that gives more priority to process rather than result,

(2) studies "things" within their context that relates to the theories, qualitative research have quality of building theories, not hypothesis or theories test, and (3) considers the subjective meaning that people bring to their situation.

## 1.7. Instruments

The instrument that isused in this present study is a set of questionnaires. In this way, the readers are asked to respond to the poems concerning each content based on their experiences.

## 1.8. Significant of the Study

It is explored that this study can give contributions to teachers, learners, and people who have interest in this field especially in the teaching techniques. It may also be meaningful for teachers in the way that they can help the students comprehend better. The writer chooses poems as method of learning a foreign language. The writer hopes this method can be used for teaching four learning skills such as speaking, listening, reading and writing. However, in this study, the writer concentrates more deeply in the reading of poems and the writing of the responses of the poems.

## 1.9. Clarification of the Main Terms

According to Meriem Webster dictionary, acceptable is "satisfactoriness by virtue of conforming to approved standard". In line with Culler, in his *Structuralist Poetics* (1965), he argued that the acceptability of a text is based on a

kind of grammar literature that is used. He mentioned that, "projects in generative grammar abound with examples of sentences that lie on the boundaries of what speakers might regard as acceptable, revealing fine degrees of unacceptability as well as acceptability". In addition, he said that the literary competence of readers is acquired in education institutions.

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary (1438), to translate is "to change and or to express the meaning of speech or writing in a different language". In line with this, Newmark (1988) said that translation "is rendering the meaning of a text into another language in the way that the author intended the text".

According to Oxford Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English (1995:1013), poem is a "piece of writing in which the words are chosen for their sound and the images they suggest, not just for their obvious meanings". In accordance with Mulyana (2000), poem is an imaginative awareness of experience expressed through meaning, sound, and the rhythmical creation of beauty in words using metaphor.

The acceptability, according to the writer, is the satisfaction that can be got people towards something based on their standard. In this case, the satisfaction is related to the translated poems that the readers read. The translated poems can be said acceptable based on the readers' standard.

### 1.10. Organization of the Paper

CHAPTER I  INTRODUCTION

Presents introductory statements involve the background, statements of problems, the aim of the study, scope of the study, respondents of the study, methodology, instruments, clarifications of the main terms, and the organization of paper.

CHAPTER II  THEORETICAL FOUNDATION

Presents the theories underlying and supporting the study.

CHAPTER III  METHODOLOGY

Presents the methodology to conduct the study including the technique of the data collecting and data analysis.

CHAPTER IV FINDING AND CONCLUSION

Presents the findings and analysis of the study.

CHAPTER V  CONCLUSION AND SUGGESTION

Presents interpretation of the writing towards the output of the discussion and recommendation for the further study.