

CHAPTER I

INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Language plays very important roles in human life. Its function is as a means of communication. As the medium of communication language is used to express thoughts, ideas and feelings. Language also functions as a tool of social control, social integration, and adaptation since language is used to build cooperation with others. Here, language is used to regulate all social activities, and to make them focused on social purpose.

Each society has its own language. Nida and Taber (1974: 3) argue that each language is different from one another. It has its own rules. Learning a language can mean learning three main components of language, namely; pronunciation, grammatical structure and vocabulary. Pronunciation deals with the way of producing or articulating sounds, as well as listening to sounds of the language. Grammatical structure deals with combination of words in syntactic levels, whereas vocabulary deals with word and word in a given context.

In East Nusa Tenggara Province, there are many languages with various dialects, such as Dawan language, Tetun language, Lamaholot language, Nagakeo language, Lio language, Kodi language (in West Sumba with its Mapeina and Magara dialect), etc. Dawan language is one of the regional languages in East Nusa Tenggara that needs protection, growth, and development like other regional languages in Nusantara. Dawan language is also association language in ethnic group of Dawan society (Kusi, 1990: 7). This language is used in the Districts of

North Central Timor, South Central Timor, and also Belu (in Western part of subdistrict of Central Malaka). For most of societies in the western central part of Timor, Dawan language is their mother tongue or first language. Often, one (with Dawan language background) who speaks English will use the system of his or her mother tongue.

Examples:

Saya minum air (*au iun oe*), engkau minum air (*hom miun oe*), dia minum air (*in niun oe*), kami minum air (*haim miun oe*), kita minum air (*hiat tiun oe*), mereka minum air (*sian niun oe*), kalian minum air (*hem miun oe*).

So based on the examples above, it can be said that Dawan language especially in Baunuba village has uniqueness in morphological process of subject – verb agreement.

The writer as the native speaker of Dawan language is interested to make a study on grammatical structure of that language, particularly on the morphological process of subject-verb and come with the title: “**Morphological Process of Subject – Verb Agreement of Dawan Language Spoken in Baunuba Village**”.

1.2 Statement of the Problem

Based on the background, in this study, the writer tries to answer the following questions :

1. What is the morphological process of subject-verb agreement of Dawan language spoken in Baunuba village?
2. What are the bound morphemes in Dawan language spoken in Baunuba village?

1.3 Objective of the Study

Based on the problem above, the objectives of the study formulated in the following statement:

1. To identify and to describe the morphological process of subject-verb agreement of Dawan language spoken in Baunuba village.
2. To identify and to describe the bound morphemes in Dawan language spoken in Baunuba village

1.4 Significance of the Study

The significance of the study are as follow :

1. For the Reader

This description may be considered as a supplementary reading for those who will teach English linguistic especially in morphology process to the native speaker of Dawan language.

2. For the Writer

This writing is useful for the writer in developing and enriching her knowledge of research, especially in describing the morphological process of subject-verb agreement in her mother tongue.

1.5 Scope and Limitation

This study belongs to linguistics. Linguistics covers microlinguistics and macrolinguistics. In microlinguistics only intends to uncover linguistic features of phonetics, phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics of a language. Macrolinguistics intends to uncover linguistic features of: psycholinguistics,

sociolinguistics, philosophical linguistics, anthropological linguistics, stylistics, language teaching, mathematical and statistical linguistics, culture linguistics and ecolinguistics. However, in this study the writer only limits herself on microlinguistics especially the morphology where she wants to seek the morphological process of subject-verb agreement in Dawan language spoken in Baunuba Dialect.

1.6 Definition of Terms

To avoid the readers' misunderstanding, the writer would like to present some definitions as follows:

1. Morphology

Morphology is the study or analysis of internal structure of words, needs some qualification, because words have internal structure in two very different senses. (Haspelmath, 2002: 3).

2. Morphological Process

Morphological process is changed of verbs as predicate depending on subjects in Dawan Language in sentence construction which bring the same meaning.

3. Subject and Verb

Subject is a person or thing that is being discussed, described, or dealt with (Hornby, 2010: 442). Verb is word or phrase that expresses an action, an event or a state (Hornby, 2010: 492)

4. Dawan Language

Dawan Language is one of the local languages used by the people in Malaka Regency especially in Baunuba village.

5. Baunuba Village

Baunuba Village is a village that is located in Laenmanen district of Malaka Regency, in East Nusa Tenggara Province.