

# CHAPTER I

## INTRODUCTION

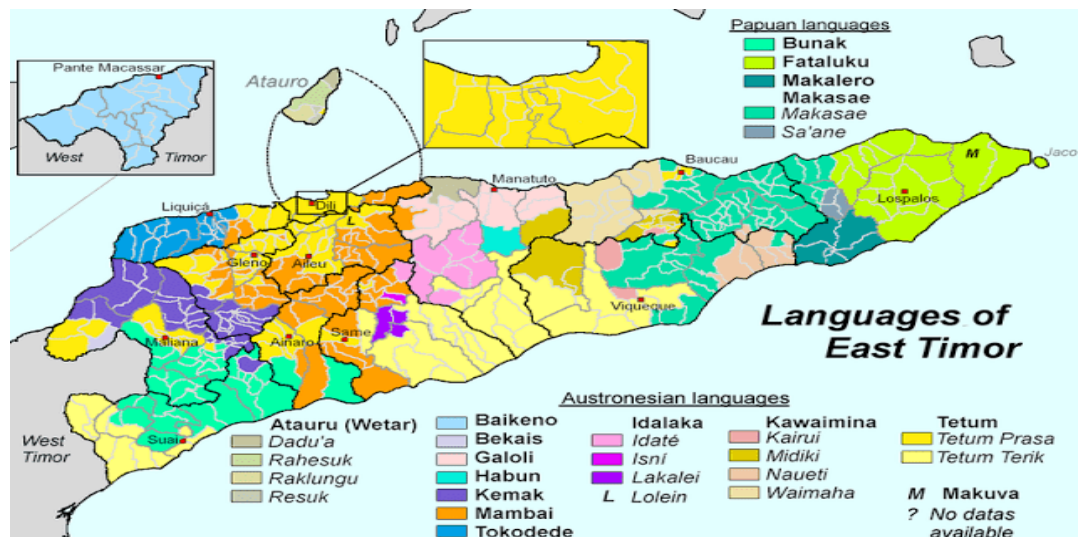
### 1.1 Background of the Study

According to Richard et al., (1985:153,154) “language is the system of human communication by means of a structure arrangement of sound (or their written representation) to form large units”. Sometimes a language is spoken by most people in particular country but sometimes a language is a spoken by only part of the population of a country. Language is usually not spoken in exactly the same way from one part of a country to the other. Differences in the way a language is spoken by different people are described in terms of regional and social variation such as dialect and sociolect.

Language is the most effective media for communication to express a message. In daily life, human use language to communicate with other people that what expect from other people can be reach.

Tetun is the most widely used Austronesian language in Timor-Leste, has now become one of the leading languages in the country since it was officially established in the constitution of the new country. Although de jure it is still very young, de facto, this language has long played a very important role in the countr as the language of instruction among speakers of different languages. Therefore, it can be understood if later this language is designated as the official language. At [https://riezalnetcanossa.wordpress.com/2011/08/11/perbedaan-bahasa tetun dan portugues/](https://riezalnetcanossa.wordpress.com/2011/08/11/perbedaan-bahasa_tetun_dan_portugues/).

This language is used (generally verbally) in three separate regions: 1) a stretch of territory from the Ombai Strait to the Timor Sea and separated by boundaries of East Timor and West Timor (Tetun Belu-speaking regions) and including Atapupu and Atambua (in the Timor region West), Balibo, Fatumean, Fohoren and Suai (in the East Timor region); 2) the south coast area around Alas, Luca and Viqueque and includes two old kingdoms of Samoro and Soibada (which speak Tetun Terik); 3) City of Dili and its surroundings (Tetun Prasa), (Pinto, 2013:2).



Linguistic is the scientific study of human language. There are some branches of linguistics, such as : *grammar* (the study of language structure which focuses on the elaborate and formal systems of rules that are follow by fluent language speakers), *morphology* (the formation and composition words), *syntax* (the rules that determine how words combine into phrases and sentences), *phonology* (the study of sounds systems and abstract sound units), *phonetics*, (the branch of linguistics which concerned with actual propertis of speech sounds, no

speech sounds, and how they are produce), *semantics* (how meaning is inferred from words and concepts), *pragmatics* (how meaning is inferred from context).

Morphology is one of the linguistics branches. Morphology is a field of linguistics focus on the study of the forms and formation of words in a language. According to Hornby's Advanced Learner's Dictionary of Current English, Morphology is study of the morphemes of a language and of how they are combine to make word.

Words are normally form by adding Affixes to the base word. Affixes can be divided into three-Prefixes, Infixes and Suffixes. Prefixes are particles at in front of the base word, whereas, Suffixes are particles at behind the base word. Infixes are particles which are at in the middle of the word, and can have both a prefix as well as a suffix attach to them (Aryati, 2014.12).

Based on the discussion above the writer is really interested to be one of the researchers investigates of Tetun Prasa entitled "*A Study on Affixation in Tetun Prasa.*"

## **1.2 Problem Statement**

The problems of the study are formulated in the following question:

1. What kinds of Affixes that exist in Tetun Prasa ?
2. What are the grammatical functions of the Affixes ?

### **1.3 Objectives of the Study**

The study is done to achieve the following objectives:

1. To identify the kind of Affixes in Tetun Prasa.
2. To know the grammatical function of the Affixes.

### **1.4 The Significance of the Study**

1. For Tetun Prasa Speakers

This study is attempt to preserve Tetun language as one of the elements of Tetun culture.

2. For the Future Linguistic Research.

The result of this study contributes a new insight that may be use comparative studies in the future.

### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

This study is about morphology. Morphology studies the structure of word. But for this study the writer only focuses on the kind and function of affixes in Tetun Prasa Langugae.

### **1.6 Definitions of the Terms**

The following are some terms needed to be defined in order to help the readers comprihend this study as a whole.

#### **1. Morphology**

Morphology is the study of words, their internal structure and the changes they undergo when altered to form new words (word formation) or when they have

different roles within a sentence (grammatical inflection) (Raymond Hickey 2017:2.24).

## **2. Affixes**

In linguistics, an affix is a bound morpheme that is attached to a word stem to form a new word or word form. Affixes may be derivational, like English -ness and pre-, or inflectional, like English plural -s and past tense -ed. They are bound morphemes by definition; prefixes and suffixes may be separable affixes. Affixation is the linguistic process that speakers use to form different words by adding morphemes at the beginning (prefixation), middle (infixation) or the end (suffixation) of words (Aryati, 2014.12).

## **3. Tetun Prasa**

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