

# **CHAPTER I**

## **INTRODUCTION**

### **1.1 Background of the Study**

Language is very vital and useful in our daily life. When people want to share their ideas, feelings, or perception with others, they have to use language to transfer them. The languages are used in all life style, culture ceremony, daily activity, and transferring knowledge from the educator to the learners. This is happening until this time. Language holds very important role in human beings lives. Nobody would be able to live on this earth due to the lack of communication tool. Language could be simply defined as a tool of communication which is given by God to human beings. Wardhaugh in Bustan (2005: 3) states that language is a system of arbitrary vocal symbols used for human communication.

According to Kridalaksana in Daraini (2009: 1), language is a symbol of arbitrary sounds that is used by community members to cooperate, interact, and identify themselves. There are various kinds of language depending on the purpose of language use. The use of language in interaction entails more than simply exchanging information about thoughts and factual things between one person to another, it is an important process in which the relationships among people are outlined and negotiated. Participating in conversations, people consciously or unconsciously show their identities, their belonging to a specific culture or group and also their tendencies to become close or distant from others. A significant linguistic area in which all these functions are highlighted is “terms/forms of address”. These linguistic elements are almost never neutral in the interpersonal

meanings they convey, that is, the choice of particular form inevitably entails the expression of particular feelings and attitudes, which is the result of the interlocutors' evaluation of the nature of the relationship between them. To Philipsen and Huspek (1985: 94) "terms of address reflect the social and linguistic background of interactants to a greater extent than other aspects of language", this is the reason why these items have been the focus of attention by a large number of researches in the area of sociolinguistics.

Dialect is also discerned as a variety of language used by one occupational group or one social class (Fishman, 1970: 177). "Dialect studies show that how one speaks is inextricably bound up with one's identity. Who one is, how one may be treated, and how one may treat others are all proclaimed in one's speech. Chaer (2004: 15) argues that the problem of sociolinguistic function is in terms of speakers, listeners, topics, codes, and the mandate of the talks. Sociolinguistic issues are interesting to talk about tribal language ethnicity and people values are in intergration and embedded in one to each other. For example, East Nusa Tenggara is a province with diverse ethnicity and languages. In this province there are many islands and languages. Grimes (1997: 5) states that there are 72 local languages spoken in this Province. Almost each island has its own vernaculars used by people in daily communication beside Indonesian. One of the languages spoken in East Nusa Tenggara Province is Nagekeo language which is used by Nagekeonese of Nangaroro village.

Nagekeo language is a language spoken by the people who live in Nagekeo Regency. Nagekeo has many local languages belong to Nagekeo people living in Nagekeo Regency. There are nine dialects namely Mbay, Wolowae, Keo, Bo'awae,

Ma'uponggo, Raja, Rendu, Ma'unori and Nangaroro. Nangaroro dialect is the writer's interest because the writer wants to know about terms of address in Nangaroro dialect of Nagekeo used for addressing people and how to address people considering the status, age, sex and context of situation of the community.

Nangaroro dialect is a dialect that is intelligible for the people in Nangaroro speech community, thus it is considered as regional dialect. In this speech community, people culturally address others according to the local norms. One of it is to use the appropriate addressing terms based on the social status, age, and sex. It may cause problems when the outsiders from other linguistics and culture background come to Nangaroro. The understanding or communication may happen when the addressee may get offended or even gets angry when the addresser does not consider the age, sex, social status or other culture aspect in system of addressing.

Actually there are some terms of address practiced by Nangaroro people. One of the terms of address used in Nangaroro is quoted below.

1. *Ine* "Mother"

The term *ine* is used to address mother and the caller is a child. This term is also used to address someone who is as sister and sometimes is used to address people who have no family relationship.

2. *Ema* "Father"

The term *Ema* is used to address father and the addresser is a child. This term is also address to someone who is as brother and sometimes is used to address people who have no family relationship like the term *ine* above.

3. *Ebu* "Grandfather or grandmother"

The term *Ebu* is used to address grandfather and also grandmother, but the terms *ebu* can also be used to address grandchild.

The terms of addressing in Nangaroro dialect can be distinguished according to situation both formal and informal in community. Georts (1972: 282) mentions that language politeness used in social community must see social relationship between speakers and listeners according to status, job, age and situation.

Based on the background explained above the writer would like to conduct a research entitled **“A Study on the Terms of Address in Nangaroro Dialect of Nagekeo Language”**.

## **1.2 Statement of the Problem**

Based on the problem described above, the writer would like to formulate the problems in the following questions:

1. What are the terms of address used in Nangaroro dialect for addressing people?
2. What are the factors of addressing people using certain terms of address in Nangaroro dialect?

## **1.3 Objective of the Study**

In line with the problem statements having been stated, this study has some objectives which are actually the aims of doing the study. The objectives in detail are as follow:

1. To find out the terms used to address people in Nangaroro dialect of Nagekeo language.

2. To describe the factors of addressing people using certain terms of address in Nangaroro dialect.

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

This study has some significance for the writer and the readers. They are explained below:

##### **1. For the Writer**

The writer wants to know more about the terms of address from Nangaroro dialect and to improve the writer's knowledge about sociolinguistic aspect especially the relationship between language and culture in Nagekeo through the use of addressing terms.

##### **2. For the Readers**

To help and inform the readers about the terms of address used in Nagekeo Language.

##### **3. Researcher**

This study will be used as a reference by other researchers who conducted the same study.

#### **1.5 Scope and Limitation**

Linguistics covers a wide range of linguistics topics. In general, it covers two: microlinguistics and macrolinguistics. Microlinguistics covers phonology, morphology, syntax, and semantics. Macrolinguistics covers cultural linguistic, psycholinguistics, sociolinguistics, anthropological linguistic, stylistics, language teaching, mathematical linguistic, philosophical linguistic, and ecolinguistics.

This study focuses on macrolinguistics specifically on sociolinguistics aspect which concentrates on social interaction of the terms of address used in Nangaroro Dialect of Nagekeo Language. It is limited to the terms of addressing people in Nagekeo Language used to address people within the community of Nagekeo especially terms of address used in family relationship and non family relationship, in relation to age, gender, and social status.

## **1.6 Definition of Terms**

In order to make the readers have the same perception or understanding and also to avoid the ambiguity and misconception about the term used in this study, the writer would define some terms found in the title of this writing as follows:

### **1. Sociolinguistics**

The Sociolinguistics aim is to move towards a theory which provides a motivated account of the way language is used in a community, and of the choices people make when they use language. For example, when we observe how varied language use is we must search for the causes ( Holmes, 1992: 16). In this study, it means the study of language use of the people in Nagekeo in their social interaction.

### **2. Nagekeo language**

Nagekeo language is a local language spoken by a group of people who live in Nagekeo Regency, which consists of Nangaroro sub district, Aesesa sub district, Wolowae sub district, Keo Tengah sub district, Ma'uponggo sub district and Bo'awae subdistrict.

### **3. Nangaroro Dialect**

Richard et al (1974: 148) states that dialect is a variety of language, spoken in one part of a country or by people belonging to a particular social class (social dialect), which is different in some words and pronunciation from other forms of the same language, in this case Nangaroro Dialect.

### **4. Terms of address**

Terms of address are used to address someone in interaction by means of language.