CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION

1.1. Background of the Study

Arabic sounds are completely different from English sounds. Some of our sounds make no appearance whatever in Arabic ('v' 'g'), and some of the sounds that we consider two different letters represent the same entirely. The hard 'th' sound in 'this' and the soft 'th' in 'through' for example are two completely different letters in Arabic, and there are two similar but deeper sounds that we don't have at all in our language.

Almost all in Arabic plurals are irregular. We have some broken plurals (goose / geese, man / men) in English, but just use 's' on the end of whatever word forms most. In Arabic, they are all irregular, not only the nouns, but the adjectives also (which must match in number and gender). This means there are different words for adjectives like 'beautiful' depending on whether you are talking about one, two or many beautiful objects.

In general, the plural system is certain language system that imbeds number in words without specifying a specific number. What can be problematic is when having no good knowledge of the plural system (in a language that has a complicated one) the problem seems bigger than the plural system itself. That is because of the noticeable frequency of plurals in any text or speech. The specialty in Arabic plural is the complexity of its system comes from its richness and

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varieties. That includes a variable degree of regularity, gender change, context change and the interrelation among all of these factors.

Native speakers naturally know most of the plural system from their spoken language, particularly the semi-regular. In addition, spoken simplifies regular plural by using one ending (suffix ين) for all cases of nominative, accusative and genitive. They always have difficulties understanding the grammar, because it remains unchanged since the medieval time. This means, difficulties in understanding the complicated sentence construction on which the changeable ending of the regular plural is dependent.

In defining the title, the writer intends to choose the title with the consideration of the difficulties in Arabic plural. Naturally, the difficulties are caused by its complexity. First, in terms of regularity, we have regular, semi-regular and irregular. Second, in terms of gender, we have masculine and feminine. Third, the context change, which means, is changing the ending of the regular plurals according to their position/function in the sentence and the sentence type (verbal or nominal sentence). One of the reasons that the writer chooses the title for this thesis is the experience when she learned Arabic language and faces the confusion as the students in understanding the differences between Arabic plural form, such as the plural form and its *mufrad* or one plural to another, especially in the case of the *taksir* plural. The difficulties in finding and determining the plural form which is caused by the less knowledge owned by the students concerning the basic formation of plural. Also The difficulties to obtain

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the plural form and the incomplete categorization of the plural form in Arabic and in Indonesian.

1.2. Statement of the Problem

Based on the background of the study, the following are the statement of the problems.

1. What is the classification of Arabic plural form?

2. How does the plural form can be recognized?

3. How the process of taksir plural form?

1.3. Objective of the Study

Regarding to the statements of the problem, the aims of the thesis analysis will be:

1. To know the classification of Arabic plural form.

2. To know how the plural form can be recognized.

3. To explore the process of taksir plural form.

1.4. Significance of the Study

The accomplishment of this study is expected to give contribution to the critical cite of the forming, finding, and determining the plural form of Arabic and its relation to the process of translating Arabic into Indonesian. In addition, the result could hopefully give valuable contribution to linguists, students who learn Arabic and other people who interested in Arabic. It is hoped that this study

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would provide useful information for the students who particularly learn Arabic and also for those who are generally interested in recognizing the translation process of the Arabic into other languages.

1.5. Scope and Limitation

As the writer, I limited the study of Arabic plural form in term of:

1. The plural form of *mudhakar salim*

2. The plural form of *muannath salim*

3. The plural form of *taksir*

4. The plural form of *mulhaq*

5. The plural form of *isim*

This study will inform the formulation process of the plural form in Arabic due to the practical rules of this language.

1.6. Definition of the Key Terms

1. Plural form is defined as a word that came from Arabic which means multiple (Sukamto,Imaduddin & Akhmad Munawari, 2005:08).

2. The plural form of mudahakar salim is plural form that defines the plural things which belong to male (Jazim, 'Ali and Mustofa Amin, *An Nahwu Al Wadhih Fi Qawa'id Al Arabiyah)*.

3. The plural form of muannats salim is defined as a plural form that refers to the multiple meaning in female type (Bakalla, H, 1990).

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4. The plural form of taksir is a plural, which is formed by the changes of its singular (Bakalla, H, 1990).

5. The plural form of mulhaq is the plural, which follows salim plural (Jauhar, Muhammad, 2000).

6. The plural form of isim a word that shows many meanings but does not have singular meaning meaning (Nasr, R, 1967).